



Grade quits as head of ACC

Lord Grade, the flamboyant showbusiness tycoon, has resigned as head of Associated Communications Corporation, the film and property empire, he built over 25 years. Mr Robert Horner, a Cossack, an Australian financier, who has made a £35m bid for the company, takes over as chairman. All the other ACC directors, except Sir Max Aitken who is "indisposed", have given undertakings to resign. They will receive no compensation.

Page 11 and back page

Kitson's aunt found dead

Mrs Alison Joan Weinborg, aged 52, the aunt of Mr Steven Kitson, who has been found dead in her flat in central Johannesburg. The police are treating the case as murder. Mrs Weinborg helped to arrange Mr Kitson's visit to his jailed father.

Page 4

Treasury aims for 7pc inflation

The Treasury is planning new monetary growth targets based on hopes that inflation will fall to 7 per cent next year and that output will grow to 2 per cent. Meanwhile, a threatened miners' strike and the troubles on the railways has hit the pound, which fell for the sixth consecutive day to close in London at \$1.8630.

Page 11

England Test hopes fade

England failed to take a wicket in the fifth Test at Madras yesterday and any hope of a victory was frustrated by Sharma and Viswanath, both of whom scored centuries. An entertaining day's cricket was marred by some boorish behaviour from Botham.

Page 15

Contempt case verdict soon

Judgment is expected soon in the case of Jack Lundin, a Fleet Street journalist charged with contempt of court in refusing to identify the source for a report he wrote exposing corruption and illegality at Ladbrokes casinos.

Page 2

Delays for rail travellers in favour of freight

By Staff Reporters

Rail passengers were warned to expect delays and cancellations to services in most regions today as British Rail struggles to get back to normal after the two-day stoppage caused by the train drivers' strike.

British Rail is placing emphasis on providing industry with essential supplies. The frequency of most Inter-City services is being reduced, particularly to and from London, to free locomotives to move heating oil, coal and essential freight for industry. There will be no sleeping accommodation on night trains because coaches are not in the right position.

British Rail has also suspended all seat reservations for the time being. It said that if the threat by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) to ban Sunday work goes ahead there will be few rail services running after 10 pm on Saturday and no trains will run from midnight on Saturday until the following Monday.

The special arrangements being made today to help to move industrial freight comes after the appeal last weekend by Sir Peter Parker, British Rail's chairman, to its 50 biggest freight customers to stay loyal to the service.

Today's delays and cancellations are caused as much by the icy weather as the dispute.

Eastern Railton is hoping to stimulate the production of body acids, has been tested by Lord Brut.

Page 3

Hights and lows for climbers

There is growing evidence that Diamox, a drug commonly used to treat glaucoma, can combat mountain sickness. One researcher says it "knocks 6,000ft off the height of Everest". The drug, made from acetazolamide, thought to stimulate the production of body acids, has been tested by Lord Brut.

Page 3

Ticket boost

A total of 160,000 tickets, double the original number, for the World Cup football finals this summer have been sold for sale in Britain in an attempt to reduce the number of fans travelling to Spain without tickets.

Continued on back page, col 1

Haughey shuffle

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Republic's Opposition leader, has appointed Dr Martin O'Donoghue as Fianna Fail spokesman on finance. Mr Brian Lenihan moves from the shadow foreign affairs post to take charge of party policy. Mr George Colley remains deputy party leader.

Page 4

Hoxha 'is alive'

Albanian diplomats have denied that Mr Enver Hoxha, the party leader, had been killed in revenge for the death last month of Mr Mehmet Shehu, the Prime Minister.

Page 4

Leader page 9

Letters: On the rail strike, from Sir Richard Dobson, and Mr L. A. Jackson; rape sentence, from Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, and Mr V. de Lanerolle.

Leading Articles: Nationalized industries; Greece; Rape Features, page 8

The Soviet Union and Poland: David Watt on why the Yalta agreement on spheres of influence should not confuse the issue.

Obituary, page 10

Sir John Penrycwick, Dr Hugh Fawcett

Rail dispute widens with 3% offer to NUR

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

British Rail last night took a gamble and agreed to offer a 3 per cent pay increase to its biggest union while continuing to deny a similar payment to train drivers who returned to work this morning after a two-day strike.

The management took the risk of drawing the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) into an intensification of the dispute. The public will already be without trains on Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday next week as Aslef continues its selective strike to secure the 3 per cent payment.

BR offered the 3 per cent rise to the 1,500 members of the National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) who are train drivers. Mr Russell Tuck, NUR senior assistant general secretary, said emphatically last night that the 3 per cent was being paid with no productivity savings.

The offer has angered Aslef, whose general secretary, Mr Ray Buckton, said: "BR's obvious intention is to drive a wedge between the unions. Surely the authority will realize now that what I have been saying all along that production should be separate from pay was true."

Leaders of Aslef and the NUR met last night to discuss BR's latest move and the union executives will meet separately today to complete their response. It is likely that the NUR executive will accept the offer for its footplatemen but Aslef's response could be to threaten a widening of the dispute.

After their meeting, Mr Tuck and Mr Buckton emphasized the closeness of the two unions and said that Aslef would not be isolated by the BR action.

The management said the payment was being offered to the NUR because it had agreed

Profile of Aslef driver and members of BR board, page 2

On PAGE SIX



Professor Cyril Chantler at Guy's Hospital, London, yesterday with Mark Jarvis (left) aged two, one of eleven children under five years old who were successfully given kidney transplants last year. Report, page 3.

Mother of Ripper victim wins fight

From Our Correspondent
Leeds

The mother of the Yorkshire Ripper's youngest victim has won her fight to make him pay damages. In a case which has made legal history, Mrs Irene MacDonald, aged 54, is suing Peter Sutcliffe for damages for the loss of her daughter and her health.

Yesterday she was told that a County court registrar in Leeds had ruled earlier this week that Sutcliffe was liable this week for damages for her daughter.

Mrs MacDonald's daughter Jane, aged 16, was murdered as she walked to her home in Scott Hall Road, Leeds, through a red light area in June 1975. Two years later, her father, Wilfred, aged 60, died of a broken heart. He never recovered from the shock of her death.

Mr William Tate, the Mac Donald's solicitor, said yesterday: "It has now been established that Sutcliffe must pay damages to the family. The amount will be decided later this year in the High Court. We are delighted at the result. It opens the door to claims from relatives of his other victims."

The Leeds County Court hearing before Mr Registrar Hebbert was held in chambers on Monday.

The application for summary judgment in respect of liability was opposed by lawyers acting for Sutcliffe. The hearing which lasted all the day, is expected to be the first of a series before any amount of damages is fixed.

When Sutcliffe was asked at the trial about Jane's murder and the fact that she was not a prostitute, he said: "I felt absolutely shattered mentally. I felt terrible and full of remorse." He said he took a fortnight to get over the killing and "get back to normal" (the Press Association reports).

Two more bodies were found floating amid the ice floes of the Potomac this morning. They were of a woman and a baby. Both were frozen stiff. The rest of the victims remained trapped in the fuselage at the bottom of the river, which is 25 feet deep.

Air Florida announced today that 79 people had been on board its flight No 90-74 passengers and five crew.

This was one less than originally estimated because it was found that one passenger had been listed under two names.

Six Navy and Coastguard divers spent much of today trying to establish the exact location and condition of the wreckage in the dark and near freezing water.

As a first step the divers were ordered to make a sketch of the plane's position. Mr

Weather hampers plane salvage after Washington crash

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 14

ON PAGE SIX

Hero of Flight 90 Arctic snow to blame How it happened

It could take between three days and two weeks to salvage the Air Florida 737 jet which crashed into a bridge packed with commuter traffic shortly after take off from Washington National Airport yesterday afternoon.

Mr Francis McAdams, who is in charge of the National Transportation Safety Board team investigating the crash, which took 79 lives, said this "self-report" that poor weather conditions and the fact that the wreckage was submerged in the icy Potomac River between two bridges was making salvage work extremely difficult.

Yesterday she was told that a County court registrar in Leeds had ruled earlier this week that Sutcliffe was liable this week for damages for her daughter.

Mrs MacDonald's daughter Jane, aged 16, was murdered as she walked to her home in Scott Hall Road, Leeds, through a red light area in June 1975. Two years later, her father, Wilfred, aged 60, died of a broken heart. He never recovered from the shock of her death.

Mr William Tate, the Mac Donald's solicitor, said yesterday: "It has now been established that Sutcliffe must pay damages to the family. The amount will be decided later this year in the High Court. We are delighted at the result. It opens the door to claims from relatives of his other victims."

The Leeds County Court hearing before Mr Registrar Hebbert was held in chambers on Monday.

The application for summary judgment in respect of liability was opposed by lawyers acting for Sutcliffe. The hearing which lasted all the day, is expected to be the first of a series before any amount of damages is fixed.

When Sutcliffe was asked at the trial about Jane's murder and the fact that she was not a prostitute, he said: "I felt absolutely shattered mentally. I felt terrible and full of remorse." He said he took a fortnight to get over the killing and "get back to normal" (the Press Association reports).

Two more bodies were found floating amid the ice floes of the Potomac this morning. They were of a woman and a baby. Both were frozen stiff. The rest of the victims remained trapped in the fuselage at the bottom of the river, which is 25 feet deep.

Air Florida announced today that 79 people had been on board its flight No 90-74 passengers and five crew.

This was one less than originally estimated because it was found that one passenger had been listed under two names.

Six Navy and Coastguard divers spent much of today trying to establish the exact location and condition of the wreckage in the dark and near freezing water.

As a first step the divers were ordered to make a sketch of the plane's position. Mr

McAdams said: "We do not know how badly the plane has been broken up. Therefore the search is needed before we can begin lifting work."

After inspecting the crash site Mr McAdams said that he did not know whether it would be possible to get the bodies of the victims out by lifting the fuselage intact or whether they would have to be cut out and the wreckage removed later.

A large crane was brought on to the bridge today to prepare for lifting, but Mr McAdams cautioned that if the fuselage was intact it would be very heavy.

"It will be a very difficult operation," he said. "We do not believe we will get it up today or possibly tomorrow or even a bit later." He added that the chance of the salvage operation lasting two weeks was an outside estimate.

The divers have begun

searching for the flight data and voice recorders which it is hoped will provide the investigators with the first clues as to why the disaster happened. The "black box" — which is in fact an orange striped container — is situated in the plane's tail, the tip of which was just visible above the surface of the river.

An eerie quiet hung over the scene of the disaster yesterday, punctuated by the roar of aircraft taking off from National Airport less than a mile down-stream.

Groups of journalists and spectators gathered quietly at the end of the bridge waiting for salvage operations to begin. Every so often the freezing air crackled to the sound of police loudspeakers barking instructions to clear the way for salvage vehicles.

The salvage operation was being coordinated by Washington's commissioner of police and comprised representatives from the Coastguard, Navy, Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Aviation Administration.

The Army began erecting a pontoon bridge this afternoon to provide access to a salvage barge in the river. Mr McAdams said consideration was being given to the use of flooding devices to raise the wreckage.

Mr McAdams warned against speculating at this stage why caused the plane to crash. "I have no idea what went wrong."

He announced that a five member board of inquiry had been set up to find out causes of the crash, the first at National Airport in almost 32 years. He said it could take up to six months for the investigation to be completed.

Although the cause of the accident is still unknown evidence given by eyewitnesses and one of the survivors indicates that the plane suffered a loss of power immediately before its tail hit the bridge and it plunged into the river.

Continued on back page, col 8

Facade of peaceful Poznan crumbles

From Roger Boyes
Poznan, Jan 14

The bird-bleached statue of Hygieia, the Greek goddess of health, has pride of place in one of Poznan's medieval squares, a testimony to the sobriety, orderliness and moderation that has characterized this western Polish city throughout its history.

Poznan was, in short, the ideal place to take some 30 foreign correspondents on their first trip outside Warsaw since the declaration of martial law a month ago. The city, it was said, was one of the most tranquil, normal, peaceful spots in the country and would thus provide an illustration of the virtues of military rule.

Instead, the military council's news management machine received a nasty jolt. First, the regional head, the Lvov, was cross-examined with particular intensity about internment, the collapse of the party and other disastrous subjects. Then, the journalists were ferried to the Cegielski engine factory which, on the surface at least, has been quiescent since being at the centre of the Poznan uprising in 1956.

But instead of clean-cut figures explaining how many production records were being broken for socialism, little groups of Solidarity members surrounded the correspondents on the shopfloor and split the beans: passive resistance at the factory meant that it was working at between 30 and 40 per cent of capacity in some sections. The workers were bidding their time, waiting for the resurgence of Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader. A few were still sporting Solidarity badges.

But there was worse to come. The Foreign Ministry officials shepherding the journalists produced, at the insistence of the former Solidarity chief of the region, Mr Zdzislaw Rozwalski, the most senior member of the union to have publicly recommended the necessity of martial law.

His disavowal of the union had been widely publicized by the Polish newspapers and he had even been tipped as the leader of a new reconstituted Solidarity, a conformist non-political organization that would be its instrument of government policy.

However, Mr Rozwalski chose this moment to announce that he had been forced by the security authorities to sign his renunciation of the union under threat of internment, that he had made a mistake and that the Government had publicized his statement without his consent. The Foreign Ministry shepherds shied un-easily from front to foot.

A 10-minute visit to the immaculate sixteenth century Market Square, all cobbles and pigeons, brought the information from a passer-by that 500 people had staged a demonstration against internment after Mass on Thursday. That was the day when Mgr Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, in a sermon sharply criticized internment.

Thus within a six-hour guided expedition outside Warsaw, a picture emerged that was totally at variance with that presented by the official image-makers, and this in a city, Poland's fifth largest, that had been selected for its exemplary calm.

The picture is one of resistance, not open but determined, and of a consciousness of strength. The Solidarity members in a factory explained that they had gathered there on the day after the declaration of martial law and had demanded the release of one of their number, Mr Bog

**NEWS IN
SUMMARY**

Howe urged to abolish stamp duty

A call for the abolition of stamp duty on house purchases is made by the Building Societies Association in its annual Budget representation.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer (Lorna Bourke writes).

Just over half the number of houses mortgaged to building societies during the third quarter of last year cost more than £20,000, the starting point for stamp duty, and the average price of houses on which loans were granted was £25,000, attract stamp duty of at least £250.

Stamp duty is paid on properties costing more than £20,000 at a rate of 0.5 per cent of the purchase price between £20,001 and £25,000; 1 per cent between £25,001 and £30,000; 1.5 per cent between £30,001 and £35,000; and 2 per cent thereafter.

The yield from duty on house sales this financial year is estimated to be £285m compared with £225m in 1980-81 and £250m in 1979-80.

Cabinet curb on farm export aid

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, is to open a seminar in London today on agricultural and food market Organisation by the Conservative Party, which will reflect concern that not enough is being done to promote the products of Britain's largest and most successful industry (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

One difficulty facing British producers is the great support given to marketing by government agencies abroad.

Two share best actor award

Translations, by Brian Friel, staged at the National Theatre, was named yesterday by Drama, the quarterly review of the British Theatre Association, as the best new play of 1981. Other awards were:

Best actor: Joint award to Michael Bryant, a National Theatre player, for "The Winter's Tale"; and David Jason, as Howard in the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best comedy: "Gone Primes", directed by Mike Leigh, at the Cambridge Theatre.

Best musical: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best supporting actress: Penelope Wilton in "The Winter's Tale".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast: "Much Ado About Nothing".

Best supporting actor: Ian Bannen in "Translations".

Best costume: "Cats", by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Best revival: "Sweeney Todd", Judi Dench.

Best costume: "A Man's House".

Best film: "The English Patient".

Most promising new playwright:

Tony Kuriel ("Outshirts") and Gavriel Klein ("The Second").

Best director: Alan Alda.

Best choreographer: Ralph Fiennes.

Best supporting actress: Imelda Staunton.

Best ensemble cast

**Inner city
parish plan
may end**

The campaign to set up parish councils in inner-city areas is in serious danger of founder just as it seems to be on the verge of its first victory (Ian Bradley writes).

On Monday the Association of Neighbourhood Councils will tell Lord Bellwin, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment that the withdrawal of the Department's £6,000 grant in April, which has already been announced, will lead to its closure.

The association was set up in 1970 to press for the establishment of neighbourhood councils in towns and cities in Britain on the model of the parish councils in rural areas.

**Council defies
ruling**

Mid Bedfordshire District Council is defying the Ombudsman's ruling that it should refund £1,400 to a man who bought his council house. The Ombudsman said that the cost of the man's house increased during the time it took the "slow and haphazard" council sales system to settle the purchase. The council blames government calls for staff cuts and says it will not refund the money.

**Landlord raffles
his pub**

A landlord is to raffle his £175,000 seventeenth century public house in spot-the-ball competition. Mr Vic Jackson, landlord of the New Found Out, pub on the outskirts of Hitchin, Hertfordshire, is selling lottery tickets at £100 a time.

The profits will go to Hitchin, Stevenage, Letchworth and Baldock football clubs. Tickets go on sale on Monday.

**Princess to attend
film premiere**

The first solo engagement of the Princess of Wales' spring programme was announced by Buckingham Palace yesterday. On March 8 she will attend the premiere of *The Little Foxes* at the Victoria Palace Theatre, London. The proceeds will go to the Army Benevolent Fund and the Metropolitan Police Combined Benevolent Fund.

**New Forest oil
might last
3½ days only**

From Hugh Noyes, Lyndhurst

The Shell Oil Company appeared yesterday to be running into a storm over its application to explore for oil in the New Forest.

On the third day of the public inquiry into Shell's proposals to drill an exploratory borehole at the Denmy Inclosure beauty spot, the mighty multi-national came under bitter attack for its attempts to wave the banner of national interest and for being prepared to sacrifice historic and environmental amenities such as the New Forest, for purely commercial considerations.

Shell represented yesterday by Dr Philip Nelson, head of the company's Land and Western Offshore Exploration and Production, was unable to deny that, on the basis of its own estimate, the quantity of oil likely in the Lyndhurst structure could leave the nation going for between only three-and-a-half to ten days.

In other words, claimed Mr John Saulter, counsel representing 14 local and national amenity and conservation interests grouped under the New Forest Association, Shell was saying that for perhaps three-and-a-half days' national supply of oil the company would like to be in the New Forest for a possible 20 years.

While accepting that Mr Saulter's calculations were mathematically correct, Dr Nelson said his deductions were "totally false, misleading and should not be considered" by the inspector of the inquiry.

Father wins right to sue over deaf and dumb son

From Our Correspondent, Edinburgh

A father who pleaded before three Scottish judges for natural justice for his deaf-and-dumb son, aged eight, yesterday won one round in his six year battle against a health board.

Mr James Kay, aged 51, a teacher of Ayrshire Road, Prestwick, was granted the right, in the Court of Session in Edinburgh, to bring a £200,000 damages case against Ayrshire and Arran Health Board to be proved in court.

Mr Kay alleges that his son Andrew became deaf at the age of two and a half after an overdose of penicillin was administered while he was being treated for meningitis in Seafield Children's hospital, Ayr.

The board admitted that an overdose had been administered, but claimed this had not caused the child's deafness.

Mr Kay twice refused to accept the advice of senior Queen's Counsel to accept an out-of-court settlement, claiming the offer was discriminatory.

Last week Mr Kay appealed against a decision by Lord Grieve to take the case out of his hands and appoint a counsel to represent the child's interests. Mr Kay, who appeared on his own behalf, had argued that in the interests of natural justice his child's right should be properly tested in court and not decided on the advice of counsel or of the health board.

Lord Stott said: "There must be many cases in the past where counsel has advised a father to settle out of court in a child's interest and the father has stubbornly refused. The case has gone to trial and sometimes the father has succeeded." Lord Dunpark ruled that no curator should have been appointed and awarded Mr Kay his costs.

Lord Emile, Lord President, sitting with Lord Stott and Lord Dunpark, ruled that no curator should have been appointed and awarded Mr Kay his costs.

Lord Emile said: "The sooner this case is brought to proof the better." Perhaps the father had been foolish in not accepting the advice of responsible senior counsel to accept an out-of-court settlement, "but all along his folly, if it is folly, is as he sees it in the child's interest. The father has no interest save to pursue what he believes to be in the interests of the child".

Lord Stott said: "There must be many cases in the past where counsel has advised a father to settle out of court in a child's interest and the father has stubbornly refused. The case has gone to trial and sometimes the father has succeeded." Lord Dunpark said: "The father may be right or may be wrong, we will never know, unless the action goes to its conclusion."

Elsewhere in the Himalayas, Mr Alf Gregory, another Everest veteran, was handing out Diamox to his clients on a photographic trek without any doubt that it would end off the painful symptoms that can begin at about 12,000 ft.

**'Mountain
pill
conquers
sickness'**

By Ronald Faux

Tests in the Himalayas have produced new evidence of the effectiveness of a pill that is said to lower the higher mountain. According to Dr Joe Bradwell, of the Medical Research Expeditionary Society at Birmingham University, the evidence is overwhelming that Diamox, a drug commonly used in the treatment of glaucoma, is effective in fighting mountain sickness.

The University has given advice on the pill's effectiveness to the Chinese authorities, who are building a railway line from sea level to the Tibetan plateau and have suffered several deaths from altitude sickness.

A company in Birmingham that is installing transformers in Peru at 13,000ft has also taken a supply of the pill. Altitude sickness begins with a bad headache and continues through vomiting and delirium to death unless the victim is moved quickly to a lower altitude.

The pill is made from acetazolamide, which is thought to stimulate the production of certain acids in the body, making it easier to breath and control the level of oxygen in the blood at high altitude.

The pill has effectively knocked 6,000ft off the height of Everest, Dr Bradwell says, and has a similar effect at lesser altitudes.

The research team believes it is important to find an answer to altitude sickness because of the rising number of expeditions exposed to the dangers in remote parts of the world.

Next month Dr Bradwell with 20 doctors and scientists from Birmingham sets out for Africa to test another drug made by Ledre, the American company that produces Diamox. He believes that the new substance may prove even more effective. They will carry out their tests at 16,000ft on Mount Kenya, where they will be able to simulate an altitude equal to the top of Everest.

Lord Hunt, aged 71, leader of the successful British expedition to Everest in 1953, recently returned from the Himalayas after climbing a 20,000ft summit without suffering altitude pains.

"The last time I was at

comparable altitude was 20

years ago in the Fannings when I found quite a struggle.

Chukhi pass which we have just climbed was higher but was not unduly bothered at all," he said.

"We have lodged all the documents and we note that there are occasions when cases are brought forward because of their social and political importance. We can only conclude that the authorities think this is not the right time for an appeal."

On Monday Mr Howe and others will hold a public meeting at Deptford town hall to discuss this. Later this year the International Commission of Inquiry, an-



Weighing in: Claire, the new-born daughter of Anna Ford and her husband, Mark Boxer, the cartoonist, faces the cameras for the first time. Mr Boxer was present at the birth last week.

Fire inquest anger**Year of mourning for 13 blacks**

By Lucy Hodges

Comyn commented that it was a very serious irregularity.

The failure to provide a transcript of proceedings is therefore also the subject of an appeal by the families.

Mr Darcus Howe, of the Massacre Action Committee,

which has maintained all along that the fire was an arson attack against black people, is angry about the time the appeal is taking to come to court.

He accused the divisional court of callous and cruel behaviour to the families and the West Indian community. "We are very disgusted about it," he said.

"We have lodged all the documents and we note that there are occasions when cases are brought forward because of their social and political importance. We can only conclude that the authorities think this is not the right time for an appeal."

A year ago on Monday, 13 young blacks died in a fire at a house in Deptford, south London. The bereaved families are still trying to appeal against the inconclusive inquest verdict, on Sunday they will hold a memorial service.

It is understood that they are not being given access to a transcript of the inquest proceedings, one of the stormiest in British history, to bring their appeal. Yesterday the clerk to Dr Arthur Gordon Davies, the inner south London coroner, declined to comment.

At the end of the three-week inquest last May, after the jury had returned an open verdict, the families' solicitors said the verdict would be challenged because there were material irregularities in the coroner's supervision of the case and the way evidence was presented.

Dr Davies had taken no notes during the proceedings, when that was challenged before a High Court judge during an adjournment in the inquest. Mr Justice

Prayer will be led by Mr Herbert Walker, the Jamaican High Commissioner, and Mr Andrew Hawkins, leader of Lewisham Council. The order of service, of which 1,000 have been printed, will contain pictures of the victims and tributes from their parents.

A New Cross 1981 Memorial Trust has been set up by Mrs Arunza Ruddick, who lived in the house and lost two children in the fire, and the other families. They are negotiating with Lewisham Council to take over the house and to turn it into a centre for latch-key children in memory of the dead. The council is expected to decide later this month.

THE ASLEF DISPUTE

**An Appeal to all
our Customers.**

Whilst we deeply regret the hardship and inconvenience caused by the present strike action, we ask all our customers to support the stand we are taking to ensure that commitments to alter out-dated working practices are honoured.

Flexible rostering, which is the issue in the ASLEF dispute, is only one of the changes we need to modernise the railway. This programme of change was initiated in agreement with all our Unions in May 1980, and positive commitments on six specific initiatives were made in August last year.

The pay agreement we reached at that time was on the strict understanding that there would be progress in implementing these essential improvements in efficiency. In our present financial position it would have been irresponsible of us to have acted in any other way.

Like railways in all other major countries, British Rail is financially supported by the community as a whole. Directly or indirectly, everyone in Britain

**Child kidney
victims 'go
untreated
and die'**

By Annabel Ferriman,
Health Services Correspondent

A third of children under 15 years of age who develop kidney disease in Britain probably go untreated, and the through lack of facilities. Professor Cyril Chander, professor of paediatric nephrology at Guy's Hospital, London, said yesterday.

About ninety children are believed to develop kidney disease each year, but only 61 were accepted for treatment last year. Doctors do not refer children for treatment if the facilities are not there, he said.

Britain comes sixteenth among European countries in offering treatment to people suffering from kidney disease.

About 2,000 adults develop it each year, but facilities exist for treating only about 1,000 either through transplants or dialysis on kidney machines. The others are left to die.

"This record is poor in comparison with our European neighbours. There are more patients on treatment in Switzerland, which has a population about one-tenth of ours," Professor Chander said.

"Spain treated more patients in relation to its population last year than we did. So did Cyprus." Greece treated almost proportionately as Britain.

A fifth of those who die from kidney disease die as a result of chronic infection. "It is preventable if diagnosed early enough," he said. All children who develop infections of the urinary tract should be properly investigated for complications.

Treatment for children has been improving. Eleven children under the age of five were successfully given kidney transplants at Guy's Hospital last year, including Mark Jarvis, aged two, from Dagenham, Essex, who had his operation on Christmas Eve. A eighth child died.

The success rate for children overall was 50 per cent, survivors from relatives.

Professor Chander, whose department receives support from the National Kidney Research Fund, said that in years to come obstetricians might operate on foetuses before birth.

If a foetus has an obstruction in the urinary tract and babies are usually operated on shortly after birth.

New lease of life for stately home

By a Staff Reporter

Negotiations are for the sale of Llangoed Castle, Gwynedd, one of the finest stately homes in Wales, to an organisation which wants it as a centre for discussions on conservation, and on the arts and sciences.

The organization, Millennium, aims to give the castle a new lease of life in a 10-year plan to turn it into a

conference centre, which would provide local jobs and attract thousands of visitors.

The castle was the first important commission for the architect Sir Clough Williams-Ellis, and he regarded it as his best work.

Designed in 1912 the castle incorporated a seventeenth-century porch and was built regardless of cost to the highest standards. It stands

beside the River Wye, near

Bwlch Wells. Built in pale

brown stone, it has two long

galleries, 20 bedrooms,

stables and a tower.

Mr H. J. H. Berger, a director of Millennium, said yesterday: "This could be the last opportunity to save this exceptional building." The Historic Buildings Council for Wales will pay half the cost of its restoration.

Millennium has plans for a conference centre, which would provide local jobs and attract thousands of visitors.

The castle was the first

important commission for

the architect Sir Clough

Williams-Ellis, and he regarded

it as his best work.

Designed in 1912 the castle

incorporated a seventeenth-

century porch and was built

regardless of cost to the

highest standards. It stands

beside the River Wye, near

Bwlch Wells. Built in pale

brown stone, it has two long

galleries, 20 bedrooms,

stables and a tower.

Mr H. J. H. Berger, a

director of Millennium,

said yesterday: "This could

be the last opportunity to

save this exceptional

building." The Historic

Buildings Council for

Wales will pay half the

cost of its restoration.

Millennium has plans for

a conference centre, which

would provide local jobs and

attract thousands of visitors.

The castle was the first

important commission for

Blast in Warsaw kiosk puts troops on edge

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 14

A small bomb explosion destroyed a telephone kiosk near the party Central Committee building in Warsaw yesterday afternoon. Nobody was hurt, though some windscreens and a shopwindow were broken.

The explosion, admitted but played down by the official news agency, is the first to happen since the declaration of martial law a month ago. It may well reinforce those elements on the military council who are understood to have reentered warnings against a "premature" loosening of the reins.

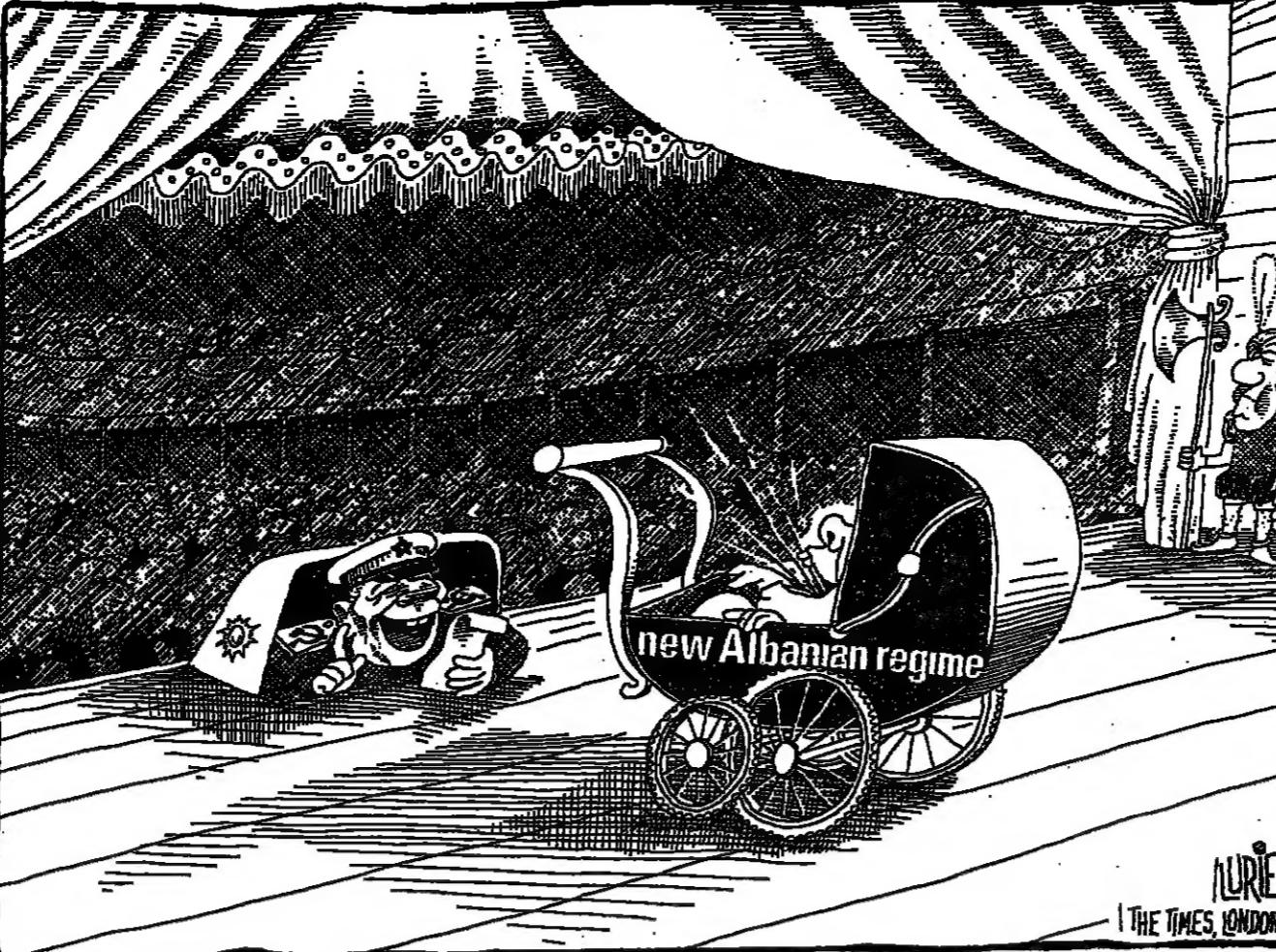
The military presence in Warsaw was strong today, especially around the Central Committee building in the city centre, but it was difficult to judge if the troops had been greatly increased. Some soldiers who three days ago were seen carrying their automatic rifles on their backs have them in the alert position again.

After the imposition of martial law, the Army appeared to have expected some form of partisan-style fighting and deployed soldiers accordingly: defending bridges and vulnerable buildings. The main flashpoints for the Army and militia were always those involving a military — the presence of ammunition, explosive or gas — rather than political threat. It is significant that the main casualties of the "pacification" campaign were miners who had access to lignite.

As these fears proved to be largely groundless, the military council started to redefine the problems faced, relaxing a number of physical restrictions in cities. It was announced two days ago, for example, that theatres and concert halls would reopen on Friday. This may in turn presage a relaxation of the curfew, which now runs from 11 pm to 5 am in the capital.

But the bomb explosion, though it was clearly very small — Warsaw Radio calls it a firecracker — may well change that picture. Fatigues were particularly active in searching car boots today and key buildings such as the state telephone exchange have five military lorries parked outside.

The relaxation of the past few days has in any case been somewhat grudging. Although telephones are back within Warsaw, all



Gala performance

Polish shorthand for the long and sweeping purge of civil and civil servants, teachers and journalists, has taken on a new and sharper edge. The quiet tolerance of some solidarity members in parts of the state administration has disappeared and more and more people are losing their jobs.

There have been some fears here — grounded in suspicion rather than fact at present — that there have been incidents near Katowice and in Bielsko-Biala. The first suggestion is based on a report from a recent visit to Katowice by a Western diplomat who heard of a village where 200 people were missing. Usually when people are interned, relatives are informed, so the mystery remains.

The second area of concern, Bielsko-Biala, has attracted attention because of the number of church dignitaries, including Cardinal Franciszek Macharski, who have been visiting the region for discussions. There are suspicions, that there might be a sit-in strike in the area and that the church is trying to mediate. The Church, which over the past week has become reticent in talking to the press, could neither confirm nor deny that something was happening there. It is impossible for correspondents to telephone or visit the area.

"Verification", the official

Tougher Schmidt jeered in Bundestag

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 14

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, today touched his language to the military takeover in Poland. The situation in Poland, he told the Bundestag, has "serious consequences for international relations, for stability in Europe, and cooperation between East and West".

It showed once again the rigidity of the Communist regimes, of the Warsaw Pact towards the challenge of allowing peaceful change. In this way they heap great sufferings on their peoples and they undermine confidence in cooperation between East and West".

"Our allies," he said, "can rely on us. We will not ourselves be taken into a crisis of the alliance when what is really involved is a crisis of the Communist system."

He said he shared and understood the passionate indignation of many people in the world. In France in Italy in the United States, everywhere.

Herr Schmidt's speech appeared to repair the psychological damage done by his initial reserved reaction to the military crackdown in Poland. He seems to have been shaken by the criticism abroad of his position.

It also seems to be prompted by the fact that Poland is not responding to his policy of persuasion rather than punishment.

But although he packaged his views differently his basic line remained the same: "Our aim is not limited to indignation confrontation [but] . . . to influence the effective situation of the people in Poland, to achieve an improvement of this situation

Albanians deny death of Hoxha

From Dessa Trevisan Belgrade, Jan 14

Albanian diplomats have denied that Mr Enver Hoxha, the party leader, was killed in a revenge shooting after the death last month of Mr Mehmet Shehu, the Prime Minister.

It was reported at the time of Mr Shehu's death that he had committed suicide. Mr Hoxha has not been seen since then.

The diplomats said here and in Western capitals that rumours about Mr Hoxha's death were originating in Yugoslavia, which had its own particular interest in spreading misinformation around the world.

A picture of Mr Hoxha in the Albanian Party newspaper *Zeri Popullit* on December 25, a week after Shehu's alleged suicide, was presented as evidence that the party leader was safe and alive and, moreover, visiting an art exhibition.

He was in an armchair, surrounded by his colleagues. Mr Ramiz Alia, a Politburo member who is now regarded as the second man in the hierarchy, and Mr Kadri Hasbiu, Defence Minister and Shehu's nephew who, according to rumours, avenged his uncle by shooting Mr Hoxha on January 5.

Parliament is meeting and the Albanian envoys said the session would provide evidence that Mr Hoxha is alive and in charge, as he will be there when the new Prime Minister is confirmed.

The diplomats said that lorries going through Yugoslavia to Western Europe no longer carry portraits of Mr Hoxha, the explanation being that Yugoslav custom officials were delaying vehicles with the portrait.

Neither is it denied that Shehu had disgraced Albania by committing suicide which was apparently regarded as treason and sufficient reason to deny him any honours. Albania, said a diplomat, does not forgive anyone who leaves the battlefield and the services Shehu had rendered for 40 years. 28 of them as Prime Minister, had been annulled by his death.

This is the official explanation, but it leaves many questions, the main being why Albania might turn to ease its economic difficulties. Hitherto, Mr Hoxha has preached self-reliance. Albania is perhaps unique in claiming to have no foreign debts, except that China, her last mentor, says it gave huge amounts of aid which was never repaid.

The Albanian constitution forbids the Government to borrow abroad, except from friendly countries which subscribe to the same ideology.

As things stand, there seems to be no country that qualifies, except Vietnam, with which Albania maintains close relations, but which is not in a position to help.

Reports about a power struggle, that Mr Shehu never went anywhere without a gun and the way he died have been doing the rounds of various capitals. Many seem to have originated in Belgrade, where events in Albania are being watched closely.

The reports are part of the psychological and verbal warfare which is going on since the eruption of Albanian ethnic riots in the Kosovo region of Yugoslavia last spring.

The Yugoslavs blamed Albania and Mr Hoxha personally for inciting the Yugoslav Albanians to revolt. They also accused him of laying claims to the Kosovo region, with the ultimate design of creating a greater Albanian state.

However bad their relations with Mr Hoxha, the Yugoslavs nevertheless feel safer with him than with someone new and unknown. They say the policy of self-reliance has come to an end and see signs of a power struggle which would weaken Mr Hoxha, leaving Albania the option of moving closer to the West or back to the East. The latter clearly worries Belgrade most.

Miro in hospital

Palma. — John Miro, aged 80, the Spanish painter, has had a pacemaker installed and is recovering well in hospital, doctors said here.

Kitson aunt battered to death

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Jan 14

In a new twist to the Kitson affair, Mrs Allison Joan Weinberg, the 52-year-old aunt of the British engineer held for five days by South African security police, was found dead yesterday in her flat in central Johannesburg. The police are treating it as a case of murder.

Mrs Weinberg was the sister-in-law of Mr David Kitson, the Briton serving a 20-year jail sentence in a Pretoria prison for sabotage. His son, Mr Steven Kitson, was arrested a week ago after visiting his father on suspicion of being part of a plot to free convicted terrorists.

The younger Kitson was released without charge on Tuesday and put on a flight to England where on arrival he complained of being beaten and otherwise mal-

treated by his South African captors. The South African Commission of Police later rejected these complaints as "completely false".

Mr Weinberg, who helped to arrange Mr Steven Kitson's visits to his father, found at about 6 pm yesterday slumped over the side of her bed, which was filled with bloodstained water. Some of her teeth had been knocked out and she had also sustained injuries to the head and jaw.

The police found a broken chain in the bathroom and more bloodstains in the bedroom. It was not immediately clear whether Mrs Weinberg had made her own way to the bathroom, or had been carried there by her assailant.

Mr Steven Kitson had stayed with Mrs Weinberg's

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Husband offers £112,000

Rome, Jan 14. — Mr Stephen May, the British businessman whose wife vanished more than a year ago with a woman friend, has offered a reward of up to 250,000 (£112,000) for information leading to their being found alive.

He is also offering just under half that sum for a solution to the mystery of their disappearance. This offer indicates that Mr May has given up the idea that his wife, Jeanette, and Signora Gabriella Guerin could have been victims of an accident.

It was now very difficult, Mr May said, to believe in such a possibility. He and his wife's family had faced false hopes during a year of uncertainty.

Mr May outlined the facts he had. "At some time during the afternoon or evening of Saturday, November 29, 1980, the black peugeot 104 in which the two women had been driving was left locked and drivable with valuables property inside about 2 km beyond the Maddalena mountain crossroads, between Sarnano and Acquacanina and about 4 km from Sasse-tetto.

"It is evident that the women spent some time in an empty house a short distance away after leaving the car. There were signs of available wood being burned for warmth and as a signal fire on a front balcony. There the trail ends".

Vandals destroy priceless relics

Peking. — Priceless relics have been destroyed in the northern Chinese city of Luoyang; but the authorities seem unwilling to act against the culprits, the *People's Daily* said.

Last year, vandals chopped off the heads and hands of more than 60 statues in the 5th century Longmen caves, one of China's most famous Buddhist sites, the newspaper added. In 1978, vandals destroyed more than 2,100 recently excavated pieces of pottery stored in unguarded caves near Luoyang.

Critics choose Meryl Streep



Meryl Streep (above) at a dinner in Los Angeles after she was chosen as best actress of 1981 by Los Angeles film critics for her role in *The French Lieutenant's Woman*.

Spy accused of bank robberies

Boise, Idaho. — Christopher Boyce, the convicted spy, has been charged with conspiring to commit eight bank robberies.

Mr Boyce, aged 28, was convicted in 1977 of selling satellite secrets from the Central Intelligence Agency to the Soviet Union and sentenced to 40 years in prison. He escaped in January 1980 and was recaptured 18 months later. Gloria White and Calvin Robinson are accused with him of conspiring to rob the banks of more than \$27,000 (about £14,000).

Action against Lee Marvin off

Los Angeles. — The former lover of Lee Marvin, the filmactor, who successfully sued him in the first of the "palimony" cases, has abandoned her attempt to obtain a \$104,000 (about £50,000) settlement from him, her lawyer said.

Michelle Triola Marvin would not try to overturn an appeals court ruling that Mr Marvin did not have to pay her the money, Mr Marvin's lawyer, added.

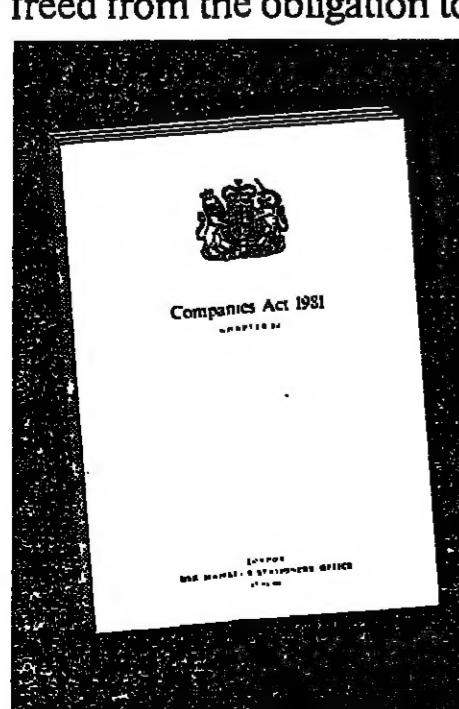
Draft dodger is granted refuge

Canberra. — Australia has accepted a South African draft dodger as a refugee, Mr Ian MacPhee, the Immigration Minister, announced. Mr MacPhee disclosed earlier this month that Australia had previously granted asylum to at least a dozen South African draft dodgers.

The 24-year-old refugee is using a pseudonym to protect his family in South Africa.

Running a business?

Are you trading under your own name? If not, read on carefully.



Under the Companies Act 1981 new requirements apply to all businesses — whether owned by individuals, partnerships or registered companies — which trade under a name other than that of their owners.

From 26 February 1982 onwards business of this kind will be freed from the obligation to supply details to the Registry of Business Names, which is being abolished.

From the same date, such businesses will have to display the names and addresses of their owners at their business premises and on their business stationery. This information must also be given on request to any customers and suppliers.

For further details, ask for explanatory notes on business ownership, available from: Department of Trade, Guidance Notes Section, 55 City Road, London ECIY 1BB.

55 من الأصل

British hostility stalls EEC budget package

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 14

The latest plans to restructure the finances and agricultural policy of the EEC ran into strong opposition from Britain when the Community's foreign ministers met in Brussels today.

The meeting was called as a last attempt to reach a political agreement on guidelines for reform before the annual agricultural price fixing round, which starts next week. Failure to reach agreement at the meeting will involve further negotiations in the price-fixing procedure.

The plans under discussion were drawn up by Mr Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, at the request of the foreign ministers during their meeting in London a month ago to study the four key issues which still stand in the way of a final agreement.

Although proposals on two of these issues concerning the Mediterranean produce and the growth of agricultural spending, could be agreed, Britain is far from happy about the suggestions put forward on the other two sticking points. These are budget contributions and milk production, in both of which Britain is involved.

Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Minister for External Relations who is president of the council, carried out what was called "the milk" round of European capitals before today's meeting to sound out views on the proposals. He found a general agreement on the urgent need to compromise, despite British hostility to the milk and budget proposals.

Mr Thorn has sought to reconcile the two apparently rival needs of the Community which are to help small farmers and at the same time to limit milk production. His suggestion is that the cost of paying for milk surpluses should be shared among dairy farmers, with producers paying more as they produce more.

Britain, supported by the Netherlands and Denmark, argues that this penalizes efficient farmers and runs counter to the spirit of the

Anthrax kills after 1,300 years

From Michael Birnboim
Moscow, Jan 14

Anthrax spores that lay dormant for 13 centuries in the soil of Siberia infected a cow after Soviet archaeologists had excavated the site of a settlement decimated by the disease in the seventh century, Soviet newspaper reported today.

Sovetskaya Rossia said that veterinary surgeons near the industrial town of Perm recently diagnosed the highly infectious disease in a cow but were unable to trace its source as anthrax had officially been declared eradicated in the area.

It was then discovered that in the summer, an archaeological dig near a river had uncovered evidence of an ancient epidemic in the area that had killed large numbers of animals and humans and prompted those remaining alive to burn their houses and abandon the site.

Emergency measures were taken to stop the disease spreading on the collective farm, and there were no further reported infections. The paper said medical experts, called in to investigate, were now able to give a guaranteed the disease would not return.

Perm is not far from Sverdlovsk, where the Soviet authorities admitted two years ago that an outbreak of anthrax had killed a large number of people in 1972. The Russians blamed the disease on infected meat, but the United States maintained that the spores were released after an accident at an establishment manufacturing biological weapons.

Washington has never regarded the Soviet explanation as satisfactory.

How Wells Fargo was taken for \$21m ride

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, Jan 14

The flamboyant Californian boxing promoter, Mr Harold Smith and Mr Sammie Marshall, the man who acted as his matchmaker, were convicted on Wednesday by a federal jury of embezzeling \$21.3m (£11.2m) from the Wells Fargo Bank in what prosecutors claimed was the biggest theft in United States banking history.

An eight man, four woman jury returned verdicts of guilty after eight days of deliberation after more than five weeks of testimony. The jury was told that the money, except for about \$5m generated by Mr Smith's fight promotions, was embezzled by Mr Ben Lewis, described as the "inside man" at the bank. However, Lewis became the star prosecution witness in the case.

Mr Smith, who rose quickly to the ranks of the world's top boxing promoters in a two-year period, was convicted on 20 charges of

Doctors demand more cash in oil scandal

Richard Wigg reports on developments in Spain's cooking oil scandal, in the first of two articles from our correspondents in Madrid.

Six doctors heading the official scientific commission into the nine-month-old poisonous cooking oil tragedy have urged the Spanish Government and Parliament to provide the money and organization needed for "real solutions".

With the death toll now more than 240 they say the tragedy will continue to be an enormous public health problem for a long time to come. There are risks, they say, in the next few months of new complications developing among the victims, even among patients now recovering satisfactorily.

The Government is told it would commit a grave error, merely compensating existing victims without providing simultaneously the means to "prevent an extension of the damage" caused by the epidemic.

In a dramatic change of tone, the doctors, headed by Professor Manuel Serrano Rios, complain of "big difficulties" encountered in speeding up the necessary structural changes in the public health bureaucracy. They admit to muddle clinical results so far, and confess that after many months doctors and hospital staffs are becoming tired and demoralized.

The doctors' report has only now been leaked to the press, although the appeal for action by Señor Manuel Núñez, the Health Minister, was handed into the parliamentary commission investigating the tragedy just before Christmas.

So far there have been no public signs of any response.



Children under treatment at a Madrid hospital for the toxic oil syndrome

Señor Jesus Sancio, Ref. Health Minister when the scandal broke, was dropped in last month's Cabinet reshuffle, but doctors concerned by the handling of the administrative problems have noted that Dr Luis Valenciano, former Director-General of Public Health, has since been promoted to Deputy Secretary of Health.

"The grave toxic epidemic has shown dramatically the already well known structural deficiencies, but these cannot excuse anyone from the obligation to face up to the problems with the utmost determination to find real solutions," the doctors said.

They reported that the lungs of those affected were now developing a chronic pathology with hypertension and probably diffuse interstitial fibrosis while there was a danger of new symptoms, which they did not define, appearing in patients apparently now recovering.

The doctors are still emphasizing that enormous rehabilitational needs of patients have yet to be met.

Meanwhile, the official theory that adulterated rapeseed oil, imported for industrial use, was sold for human consumption last spring, continues to be questioned.

In Bilbao a family has fallen ill with all the typical symptoms in spite of repeated official laboratory tests which found the oil they bought and consumed was safe.

Amnesty report rejected

Pakistan claims only 62 political detainees

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, Jan 14

Mr Mahmood Haroon, the Pakistan Interior Minister, today rejected the report of Amnesty International on the state of political and human rights in Pakistan and accused Amnesty and some other agencies of being highly prejudiced against his country.

Speaking in the newly-formed Federal Council (Majlis-i-Shoora) on the threat to Pakistan's security, Mr Haroon said that the number of political arrests reported by Amnesty was highly exaggerated. He said that at present the Government held 481 people against whom cases for anti-state activities were being processed and 62 others were detained pending investigation. He said that these 62 could be considered political detainees.

Speaking later to *The Times*, the minister said he did not recognize Amnesty International and its findings.

Mr Bhutto's Government had also at one time refused recognition to Amnesty. Mr Haroon said that Amnesty had made no approach to him to check the contents.

Amnesty, reporting large scale torture and detention on political grounds in Pakistan, had stated that the Government was not willing to let its representatives meet them to ascertain facts. Mr Haroon said angrily that Amnesty had condemned Pakistan without obtaining confirmation.

In spite of Mr Haroon's emphatic assertion that there were no more political detainees in Pakistan beyond those he mentioned, a well-known Urdu language newspaper a few weeks ago quoted a senior police officer as saying that about 10,000 people had been rounded up in the Rawalpindi division alone in connexion with maintenance of public order.

I will put my CLIENTS interests first.
I will give my CLIENTS impartial advice.
I shall select those policies that suit my CLIENTS needs...



Now the law tells your insurance broker what his code has always told him.

Good insurance brokers have always conformed to a very demanding professional code.

But last year, the Insurance Brokers Registration Act gave this code legal backing.

What does this mean to you?

Well, now anyone who calls himself an insurance broker must meet clearly defined standards of conduct.

He must prove that he is properly qualified.

He has a duty to put your interests first. He is obliged to give you impartial advice.

All this by Act of Parliament.

Your insurance broker has a responsibility to select from the hundreds of insurance companies and thousands of policies those which best suit your needs.

What's more, his advice is free.

And he will, if necessary, help you with any claims.

The British Insurance Brokers'

Association is the trade association of the insurance broking industry, with members throughout the U.K.

For a free leaflet, write to The British Insurance Brokers' Association, Fountain House, 130 Fenchurch St, London, EC3.

THE BRITISH
**INSURANCE
BROKERS'
ASSOCIATION**

Your insurance broker puts you first - by law.

From Runway 36 to disaster — the seconds which spelled life or death in the frozen Potomac River

The hero of flight 90 — he died to save five lives

By Christopher Thomas and Michael Hamlyn in New York and Nicholas Ashford in Washington

Air Florida Flight 90 from Washington to Fort Lauderdale and Tampa was scheduled to leave the capital's antiquated and congested National Airport at 2.15 pm local time. By 2 pm all 71 passengers and three infants were waiting in the departure lounge listening to repeated announcements of delays.

Nothing had taken off for an hour while snow ploughs fought to clear the runways and airport workers sprayed de-icer on stranded aircraft. At around 3 pm a decision was apparently taken that weather conditions had improved enough for flights to resume, although the blizzard continued.

The passengers filed into 21 rows of seats in the Boeing 737 leaving 41 seats unoccupied. The three stewardesses on board, Donna Adams, Kelly Duncan and Marilyn Nichols, all in their mid-twenties, walked up and down the aisles serving light refreshments.

For the next 90 minutes Captain Larry Wheaton, aged 35, and his co-pilot, Mr Roger Pettit, both from Miami, apologized repeatedly for the further delay. Then to everybody's relief, take-off was announced over the aircraft's loud-speaker system. At 4.25 pm flight 90 left the gate and moved through the heavy, falling snow to runway 36, which is 6,870ft long and the airport's longest. A few minutes later the control tower gave clearance and the aircraft, bearing the blue and white insignia of Air Florida sped out of sight into the blizzard.

As it happened, it was one of the first aircraft to take off after the closure of

the airport at 1 pm. The Federal Aviation Authority, which is responsible for aircraft safety, had halted all flights because several inches of snow had built up on the runways and made them very slippery. National Airport is built on reclaimed land bordering the Potomac river, and when the weather is bad flights are often delayed.

The 737's only fatal accident during the period was in December 1972 when a United Airlines aircraft crashed in a residential area on the approach to Midway Airport at Chicago. There were 45 deaths, two of them people on the ground.

"As far as we are concerned, the 737 has an excellent safety record," said a spokesman for the safety board. At Boeing's Seattle headquarters, a spokesman said the company had delivered 813 of the aircraft and had orders for a further 159. The 737s are being produced at the rate of 10 a month making it the best selling jetliner in the world.

the airport at 1 pm. The Federal Aviation Authority, which is responsible for aircraft safety, had halted all flights because several inches of snow had built up on the runways and made them very slippery. National Airport is built on reclaimed land bordering the Potomac river, and when the weather is bad flights are often delayed.

Sunset in the American capital yesterday was at 4.50 pm but as flight 90 began to take off the light was already very poor. Indeed, the weather throughout the city was so bad during the afternoon that the federal government had told all of its thousands of employees to leave for home early. The net result was a huge traffic jam across the whole city.

The 14th Street bridge, which is closest to the airport and the busiest bridge across the Potomac from the city to the commuter suburbs in Virginia, was packed with cars inching their way through the swirling snow.

Air traffic controllers in the tower could see nothing through the snow which reduced visibility at that

time to about half a mile. Captain Wheaton himself was to decide whether conditions were sufficiently good for him to attempt a takeoff within guidelines approved by the FAA.

Disaster was seconds away, but even in that time some passengers had a sense of the danger. Mr Joseph Stiley, a private pilot, was thumbing through paperwork with his secretary, when he suddenly turned to his secretary and said: "We are not going to make it. We are going in." I had a pretty good indication that things were not going right soon after we started down the runway. We didn't have the speed. It then seemed like he (the pilot) had to make the decision to go, so we took off. We got up a little bit. It didn't climb like a normal 737. Then I remembered the first impact, then a second impact, a moment or two later, and I went unconscious."

Pilot struggled for 20 seconds

It is less than a mile from the end of the runway to the 14th Street bridge. The aircraft just managed to gain enough height to clear the railway bridge which runs alongside. Mr Burt Hamilton, aged 40, was sitting in the last row of 21B against the galley and he, too, "knew something was wrong as it took off. When the aircraft took off it seemed to take an awful long time to pick up speed. It really started vibrating — a strong shaking. The shaking was so bad I tightened my seat belt."

"And the next thing I knew I was in the water," Mr Hamilton said. He grabbed a piece of what had been the plane's tail and just hung on.

The pilot struggled for 20 seconds in the air. He cleared the first span of the road bridge. He was not visible on any radar screens in those few seconds.

Air stewardess Kelly Duncan felt the plane starting to shake and the next thing she knew she was in the water. She was in a jump seat in the tail section of the aircraft.

The next view, at 4.35 pm, was from the ground. As the pilot struggled to clear the first span of the road bridge, the plane sheared the tops off several cars and a lorry.

"I heard it coming," said Mr Lloyd Creger, a Justice Department employee who was travelling along the northern span of the bridge. "I couldn't see anything. It was snowing. Then I saw the plane coming out of the sky. The nose was up, the tail was down. It was so loud I couldn't hear myself scream. And then," Mr Creger added, "there was no sound. You couldn't even hear the plane go into the water".

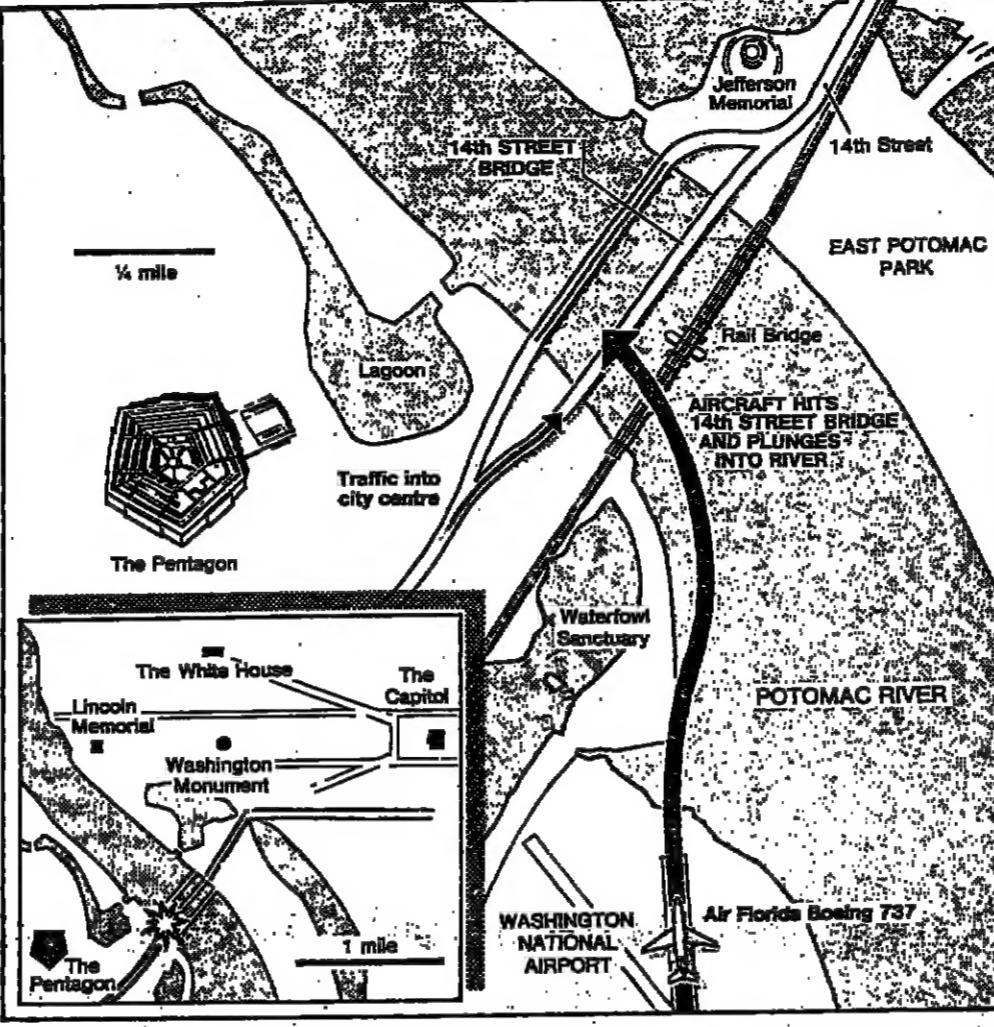
Mr OJ Richardson, a bus driver who was among the vehicles crawling across the bridge, saw four cars completely demolished. "Their tops were sheared off. The



The scattered remains of cars litter the 14th Street bridge over the Potomac. Six people died when the airliner scythed through the rush-hour traffic jam cutting off the tops of several vehicles



A woman hangs from a helicopter rescue rope above the airliner wreck. The winch team delved into the remains of the fuselage lying among chunks of ice on the surface of the river to lift out survivors, many of whom had been strapped to their seats



plane sort of tumbled into the water, and you could see pieces hit the ice and bounce in the air, and then hit the bridge."

Another eyewitness said that when the aircraft plunged into the water just in front of the second span of the road bridge, it "shattered the ice like a window or a piece of glass".

"I stopped the bus and ran to the side of the bridge, you could see five people in the water, clinging to the wreckage," Mr Richardson said. "They were alive. Everybody was screaming from the bridge: 'Hold on, hold on. Help will be here.'"

It was several minutes before the first police car arrived to see Flight 90 sitting on the water surrounded by large chunks of broken ice, before it slid beneath the surface.

According to experienced rescue workers a strong swimmer could have lasted 5 to 10 minutes before his arms and legs became numb and he drowned. Those

with something to hang on to could have survived for anything up to 90 minutes and the shock would have killed many outright.

Mr Stiley said: "I was looking out of the side window. I knew there were bridges down there but I couldn't see them. There was no time for any pilot message. When he regained consciousness in the water, he saw four other people, one of them his secretary, get out through a hole ripped in the fuselage. The biggest problem was taking off the stupid seat belt. One of the other men said he was still strapped in — and I couldn't do anything to help him. It seemed that everybody had their legs broken."

Mr Stiley estimated that he was in the water "for the better part of a half hour," before a rescue helicopter lowered a rope to him.

Mr Hamilton found himself worrying absurdly about a lost shoe — he saw four other survivors, two clinging to the wreckage and

two in the water. One woman had apparently been thrown some distance from the crash. He saw her manage to swim to a piece of wreckage where she was rescued.

The first ambulance to arrive at the bridge were from the Virginia side of the river. Helicopters arrived at about the same time and many people were plucked from the water.

One woman lost her grip and plunged back into the river and a firefighter dived in after her. He pulled her safely ashore.

An elderly man aboard the jet sacrificed his life by pushing five other passengers to safety before he presumably went under the ice.

Finally after making several trips and plucking other people from the water the helicopter returned to pick up the man who Mr Usher called "number 6".

"We stayed there for ten minutes just in the hopes he had crawled into the main part of the fuselage and

then became obvious he had gone under.

"We really want to know who he was. That gentleman put everyone else ahead of himself. He is the real hero of this whole thing. There's no doubt about it. If you were in his situation, a hundred yards from shore and knowing that every minute you were closer to freezing to death could you do it? I really don't think I could."

An elderly man was seen under the ice by rescue workers. He watched the rescuers trying to get to him as his life was slipping away, said Salvation Army major Harold Anderson.

"He was alive when

police saw him through the ice, and he saw the rescue workers trying to get to him to get him out of the water," Mr Anderson said.

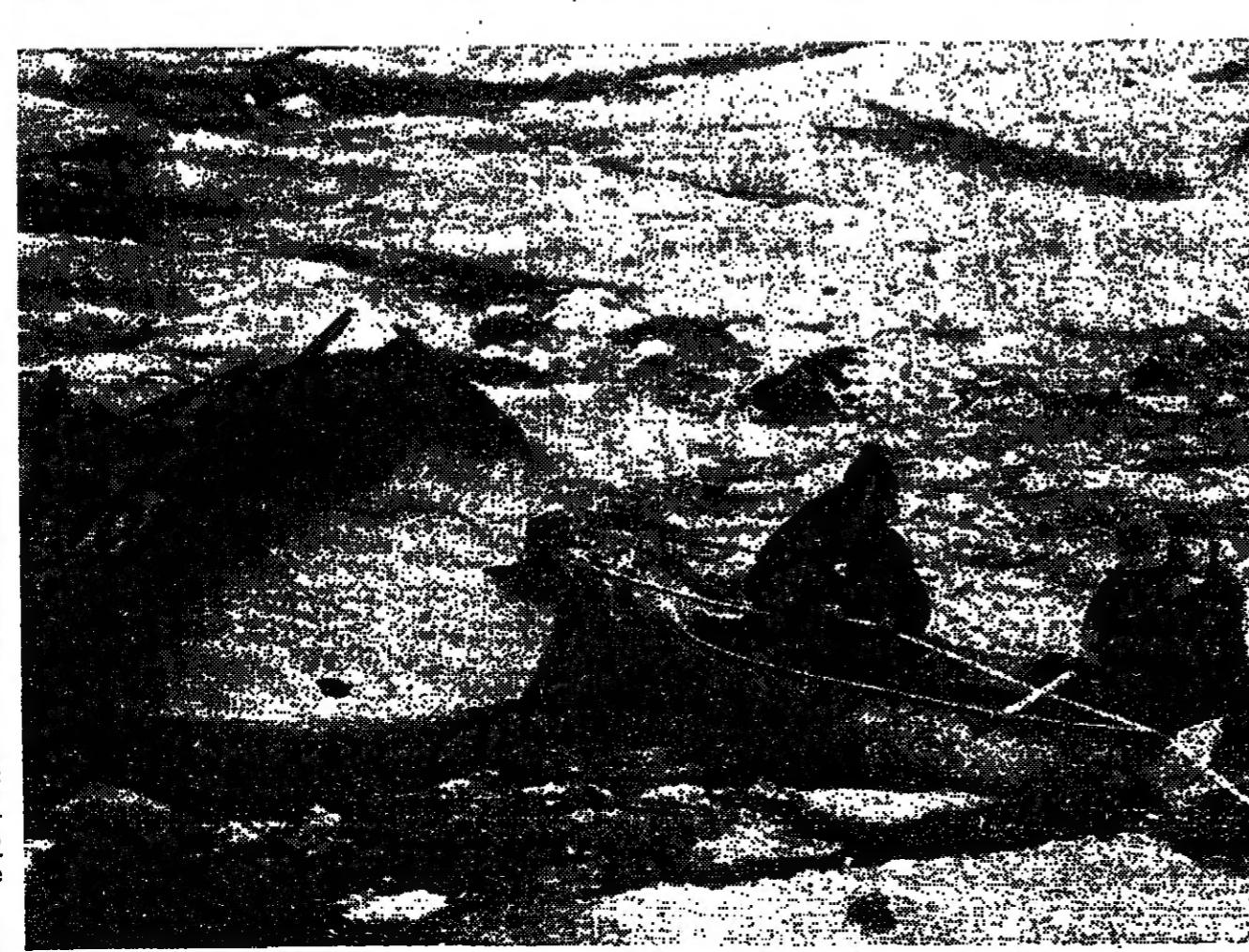
"He was trying frantically to get out, but by the time they got the ice broken he was gone. They couldn't revive him."

Mr Hamilton, still in the water, became separated from a group which was being rescued. He kept hearing shouts from people on the bridge to "hang in there". Then a rescue helicopter came overhead and dropped the lifebelt that saved him.

He does not remember much of what happened next until he reached the Arlington Hospital a few miles from the scene. He was calm and lucid as he spoke to reporters yesterday, despite an ugly gash over his right eye, a bloodied nose, his right arm broken in a sling, and his left arm in a splint.

On the shore many ordinary citizens were trying to help the rescue. Mr Lenny Skutnik, aged 28, of Lorton, Virginia, dived into the river when a woman lost her grip on a helicopter line and fell back into the water.

"She cried out for help and



Using any available craft rescuers make their way across the ice-bound Potomac to the remains of the fuselage.

Snow and Arctic winds to blame

From Our Own Correspondent
New York, Jan 14

Bad weather is at least partly to blame for the crash. A low pressure area swirling around the Gulf of Mexico formed into a storm over New Orleans on Tues-

day. During the afternoon it dumped unaccustomed amounts of snow over the Gulf states and then tracked north-east during the night giving Atlanta, Georgia, its first real taste of snow this winter.

By morning the storm was off the Virginia coast and it was snowing heavily in Washington. At 1 pm the Federal Aviation Authority, which is responsible for Washington National airport, decided that the five inches of snow on the runway was too hazardous and the airport was closed for snow clearance.

The bitter conditions are blamed for at least 178 deaths, including an Alabama man who was killed when frozen tree limbs fell on him. Schools and factories are closed in many cities from Chicago, where temperatures have dropped to a record -26 Fahrenheit, to Atlanta, which recorded its lowest temperature this century.

Weathermen have glibly announced temperatures of 70, 80 even 100 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit, including "the wind chill factor". Wind chill is based on the concept that the more wind you have, the faster it can carry heat from the body, thus an increase in wind speed is equivalent to a drop in temperature. "It has limited application but it is one of those things the public likes", one meteorologist said.

At football matches in Cincinnati on Sunday it was reported that because of a wind chill factor of -59 Fahrenheit the breath of the fans obscured the view of the game. Chicago firemen fighting a spectacular factory blaze with a wind chill temperature of -100 Fahrenheit found the water soaking their uniforms and turning immediately to crusts of ice.

In the Gulf states yesterday's snow was greeted with surprised amusement at first. In Jackson, Mississippi, Mr William Winter, the Governor, handed hot chocolate to revellers who built a snowman on the lawn in front of the Governor's Mansion. But frozen pipes, blocked roads and snapped power lines turned earlier curiosity into severe concern by the end of the day.

The snowstorm caused havoc in the north-east. In New York it took more than five hours to drive from Wall Street to the George Washington Bridge, roughly eight miles. In New Jersey the rush-hour did not end until after 11 pm.

Elsewhere in the north-east, Buffalo, New York, was digging out from a record 24-hour snowfall of 28 in.

In New York City, the Heat Complaint Bureau received more than 10,000 reports of flats without heat.

SPEAK FRENCH
(or German, Spanish, Arabic and others)
Like a diplomat!

You can now learn a language with courses designed by the Foreign Service Institute of the USA Dept of State for personnel stationed abroad.

Audio-Forum offers the best in instructional foreign language courses using audio cassettes, including French, Spanish, German, Japanese, Arabic, Chinese and many others.

Each course comes with our 3 week unconditional guarantee. If you are not convinced of its fastest, easiest, most painless way to learn, return it and we will refund every penny you pay.

Call or write for our FREE CATALOGUE
AUDIO-FORUM, Dept T1
31 Kensington Church Street,
London W8 4LL Telephone 01-937 1647

ACADEMIC BOOK SALE

TLS
THE TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

The Times Higher Education Supplement

February 12

David Watt

Moscow and Poland: don't let Yalta cloud the issue

Did Churchill and Roosevelt really "sell" the Poles to Stalin at the Yalta conference in February 1945? This skeleton has just tumbled out of the cupboard again, disturbed by the deepening debate over the present Polish crisis. Those who ask the question (mostly in the American press) tend to hope, and therefore assume, that the answer is "Yes".

In an atmosphere of crass indignation it is edifying and obscurely comforting to contemplate an earlier "great betrayal" whose mute reproach justifies strong action and absolves us from responsibility for the present parlous state of affairs. The last time there was a vogue for Yalta conspiracy theories was in the first half of the 1950's at the height of the cold war, the era of John Foster Dulles and Senator Joseph McCarthy.

Historically speaking, the charge does not stand up for the reasons given by Sir Ian Gilmore on television the other day to Mr Denis Healey (who should know better) — that there was nothing Churchill or Roosevelt could have done to rescue Poland from the Russian grip.

No doubt it was naive, possibly even disingenuous, of the two western leaders to try to bind Stalin to the vague terms of the so-called Yalta Declaration on Liberated Europe which said that the three great powers would concern their policies in order to assure the liberated people's Europe "representative and democratic governments, responsive to the will of the people". It was also a mistake to accede so easily to, and even encourage Soviet territorial ambitions by picking up pre-war Poland and moving it 200 miles westwards into Germany.

But Mr George Kennan, a former United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union and a noted commentator, was surely right to say that

"the peoples in question had for the most part fallen into communist hands by February 1945 or would have done so anyway in the course of the military operations of the war and, once in control Moscow would never have dreamed of letting them go just because of a lack of Allied approval". If the western powers had managed to open a successful second front much earlier than June 1944 or had concluded an earlier peace treaty with Hitler on terms other than unconditional surrender, they might have ensured that the Allied and Soviet armies met further east than they actually did and so have forestalled subsequent events. But it requires enormous doses of historical hindsight to blame them seriously for these "errors".

If we can thus rescue the Yalta question from the moral chains that have been placed on it, we can look at the present Polish problem in a more realistic light. It ceases to be a matter of guilt and atonement and becomes, as it should, a matter of deciding what we can do to alleviate an unjust and de-testable situation which, like so many of the world's injustices, lies at present outside the scope of our physical power and within someone else's.

We are prepared to extend our own scope and reduce that of the Soviet Union by force? Since 1948 the western Allies have tried to contain the expansion of Soviet power, but we have not, despite a brief period of rhetoric in the 1950's, made any direct attempt to "roll back the frontiers of communism." When we refused to intervene militarily to prevent the Soviet invasion of Hungary in 1956, we showed that in practice we recognized the reality of a Soviet sphere of influence in eastern Europe.

This was confirmed when we allowed the Russian

troops to march into Prague and reconfirmed when we indicated the limits of our response to a possible Soviet intervention in Poland this winter. The 1975 Helsinki agreement was another attempt to bind the Russians and their east European clients to liberalizing procedures, but it did not and could not alter the underlying physical domination of eastern Europe by the USSR.

Of course, one has only to whisper "sphere of influence" to be instantly denounced, particularly in the US, on grounds of cynicism and immorality. The natural idealism of the American people combines with the emotional preoccupations of powerful blocks of ethnic voters and produces a rock-like opposition to anything sounding remotely like acceptance of the status quo.

But there is confusion here about the term "sphere of influence". When Thomas Carlyle was told that Margaret Fuller "accepted the universe" he replied, "God, she'd better!" The same might be said of Soviet ascendancy in eastern Europe. We do not accept it in the sense of approving or endorsing it or even regarding it as in any way legitimate, but we are obliged to accept it as fact.

The same is true of the American exercise of power in central and south America, which is equally a fact: whether or not we approve of it.

What flows from this? Not that we should not try to modify or undermine the Soviet sphere of influence or even, perhaps, that some radical changes, unwelcome to Washington, within the American sphere of influence should not be encouraged.

The point is simply one of prudence. Where a sphere of influence is firmly established, the great power concerned will usually defend it more resolutely and aggressively; than any other interest except the security



Polish troops, wearing gas masks, on duty in Gdansk: can the West really be blamed for events leading to Poland's present troubles?

of its own territory. The power that challenges it is therefore taking greater risks with the stability of the international system than if it remained neutral or unclaimed ground.

The American sphere of influence, for instance, was modified by the Cuban revolution in 1960 and the failure of the Bay of Pigs operation to overthrow Castro; the Russians then overplayed their hand in the Cuban missile crisis and failed to make further progress. The walls were undermined briefly again by the Allende interlude in Chile but the Americans clamped down with the help of a military surrogate and the sphere was restored until the latest sapping operation in central America and the Caribbean threatened it once more.

With the exception of the missile crisis, which evidently taught them an important lesson, the Russians have proceeded with a caution very different from their actions in, say, Africa and with good reason. A direct assault on the American hemisphere would undoubtedly have provoked a

violent reaction from an American resident and jeopardized the entire super-power relationship.

The Soviet supremacy over eastern Europe is far more dangerous and courageous than the American in Latin America and is therefore morally much more objectionable. But in terms of the behaviour of the main actors the principles are the same. The West has attempted to nibble away at the integrity of the Soviet system over the years by economic encouragement, by propaganda and by political detente. And contrary to the fashionable Washington view, it has had some limited successes. The Hungarian would not have got so far and the Polish experiment would not even have begun without detente. We have also helped to deny the Russians the satisfaction of reintegrating Yugoslavia into their block.

But the United States has not hitherto risked a major confrontation with the Russians in order to push back the frontier. This is partly because America has taken a cautious view of the dangers involved and partly because, as Mr Helmut Sonnenfeld,

Dr Kissinger's side, said in 1976, if we wish to encourage a looser organic relationship between the Soviet Union and eastern Europe, "try excesses of zeal on our part, but not to provide results that reverse the desired process for a period of time, even though the process would remain inevitable within the next 100 years".

This does not mean that the West should immediately abandon the progress made by the Poles, although it might be argued that Solidarnosc is reprinting the consequences of "excessive zeal". On the contrary, we should continue to do our damn best to protect these gains and be prepared to pay a price for them. Nevertheless, if we are to pursue justice in the Soviet sphere of influence we must expect the operation to be very much harder and riskier than usual.

That is not a reason for running away, but it is emphatically an argument for the cool calculation of costs as well as benefits. The conjuration of the spectre of Yalta is no aid to such a process.

© Times Newspapers Limited, 1982

sentiment or origins, many of its middle class having English roots or a British outlook. It is poor territory for the SNP, which lost its deposit in two of the last three elections, consistently polling below its average for both Scotland (7 to 10 per cent) and Glasgow.

Unlike Warrington and Crosby, it presents no impossible heights to scale; in 1979 the Conservative majority was only 6.7 per cent, and compared with the almost as marginal Croydon North West, there is a stronger Liberal base on which to build — 14.4 per cent against Croydon's 10.5 per cent — despite the competition from the Scottish National Party for the anti-two party vote. Applying the swings suggested by last month's national polls gives Mr Jenkins a comfortable victory with about 45 per cent of the vote.

A third potential threat to Mr Jenkins is that social change in the constituency is gradually making it better for the Labour Party. The large, Victorian, family houses are being converted into flats and bed-sitters. Between February 1974 and 1979 the Conservative to Labour swing was 6.5 per cent, compared with 16 per cent in

contrast to Croydon North-West, far from becoming socially middling. Of Britain's 623 constituencies it ranks 19th in the size of its professional middle class, but it also ranks 15th for overcrowded housing (households with three rooms or fewer). It is in fact a mix of three quite distinct elements: a poor, under-employed, badly housed working class; a prosperous, well educated and predominantly middle-aged to elderly middle class; and young single people, mainly students. The danger to the Alliance is that the first two groups will remain loyal to the Labour and Conservative parties, and that the more promising third group will be too mobile and unconcerned to turn out in sufficient numbers.

One social feature, however, makes Hillhead a particularly good proposition for the SDF. It contains the best educated electorate in the whole of Britain. No other constituency has as high a proportion of electors with two A levels to their name — not only the staff and students of Glasgow University, but a middle class that works in the professions and services rather than, as in the case of Crosby, commerce and manufacturing. Data on SDF membership strongly suggests that it is to this constituency that the Alliance appeals.

The second unknown factor is the "Scottish dimension". In Scotland, it is argued, Labour's support is holding up whereas the Alliance's advance has been modest. Swings based on the most recent Scottish poll put Labour and the Alliance neck and neck — just as the first local Hillhead polls have been showing.

It is also rare to field outside candidates in Scotland, especially at a by-election — and risky, as Labour discovered in Dundee East in 1973 after putting up an engineer from Sheffield. Mr Jenkins is bound to be accused of using Hillhead to further his interests rather than the constituents' — exposed position to be in when the three other main candidates will probably all have local connexions.

These arguments almost certainly exaggerate the importance of the Scottish dimension. Hillhead is possibly the least Scottish of the Glasgow constituencies in cent in Scotland as a whole; Labour's vote rose 10 percentage points. But factors peculiar to Hillhead were probably not responsible since the swing was similar to that throughout Glasgow (6 per cent).

The fourth and potentially most serious uncertainty for the Alliance is the electoral impact of the quarrel over the share-out of parliamentary seats. If the arguments ramble on spasmodically the damage will probably be small. But the possibility of their erupting into a major breach between now and polling day cannot be ruled out.

On balance, Mr Jenkins was almost certainly right to plump for Hillhead. The chance of a more promising by-election turning up within the next nine months when the Liberals will stand down is very slim. But there are risks for Mr Jenkins. In politics there always are.

Ivor Crewe

The author is Director of the SSRC Survey Archive and co-Director of the British Election Study, both at the University of Essex.

Why Lord Rothschild should not swing the axe

Leaks suggest that Education Secretary Sir Keith Joseph would like to dismantle the Social Science Research Council; he has appointed Lord Rothschild to look into its use of Government money. Robert Jones disentangles myth and fact.

The axe has been handed to a gentleman of cast-iron integrity, but also to someone whose starting position is unlikely to be favourable to the Social Science Research Council. Lord Rothschild has a strong advocate of government departments placing research contracts directly with the universities rather than acting through intermediaries like the SSRC.

The approach favoured by Lord Rothschild is "the customer says what he wants; the contractor does it (if he can); and the customer pays." This is at the opposite end of the spectrum to a traditional view of university research, where the individual academic pursues research which he considers important in his discipline, subject only to the judgment of his academic peers.

Bodies like the SSRC seek to perform a delicate balancing act between nurturing academic inquiry for its own sake and pushing it in the direction of research that is relevant to major problems facing the country.

Pop goes the old Eton tuckshop

Sad news for old Etonians. The school's historic tuckshop is no more. A small stream has been eating away at the foundations of the three-storey listed building and it is now in danger of falling down — the outside walls, for instance, are leaning out by 9in. A new tuckshop speciality: "brown cow" — coca cola with ice cream on top has been established in one of the school's former boarding houses but it won't be the same.

The old building will not be demolished, however, but pulled down brick by brick and faithfully rebuilt. A spokesman for the architects says: "We'll measure and mark everything as we take it down so we can rebuild it exactly. We want to salvage as many bricks, tiles and windows as possible."

The house, known as Rowlands, is the most prominent building in Eton High Street and the operation is, apparently, costing a fortune. It will be rebuilt, however, not as a tuckshop but as a luxurious four-bedroom master's house, complete with study.

The architects, Stribling and Partners, say: "It is certainly not a commercial proposition to rebuild this house. The house's market value would be about £80,000 but there's no way in which you could do the job for that." No wonder the school's fees run to £3,600 a year.

Winning remarks

It was extremely difficult to decide which of this column's many correspondents on practical uses of the social sciences should win the bottle of champagne. Unlike other competitions, Diary this year has involved a serious topic (though I suppose some would also call hangovers serious). Michael Posner, chairman of the Social Science Research Council, tells me that Basil Bernstein's research, as mentioned in the choice of Ted Wragg, professor of education at Exeter University, and some of the economic points made by David

take on if the SSRC were abolished.

The big money analysis also gives the lie to the notion that the council is predominantly funding sociologists — and left-wing sociologists at that. Much of the money goes to economists, geographers and psychologists, and the citadels of monetarism — the London Business School and the City University — are at least as well represented as schools with a left-wing reputation.

All the remainder, worth no less than £5.4m, came under relevant. The overwhelming proportion of the big money goes into economic policy, economic modelling, business studies, unemployment work studies, children's learning problems, office and shop location and transport policy studies. Typical titles are "Industrial Change in North-Western England", "Responses to Steel Redundancies" and "Children's maths strategies and children".

In addition the SSRC spends £1m a year supporting five university research units in population studies, socio-legal studies, industrial relations, ethnic relations and the social psychology of work. The £9m of government money provided for post-graduate grants in social science, a job the Department of Education and Science would have to

be convinced that the dice are already heavily loaded against the social sciences. The role of the research council is to keep the academics plugging away at such difficult problems, which may take years to solve, and which are unlikely, therefore, to help the

promotion prospects of employees of the customer.

This case can, and no doubt will be, argued vigorously both ways, in front of Lord Rothschild. But the argument looks a little academic when put in the context of the threat facing university research in general from the government cuts.

Most university research is funded through the University Grants Committee. It is understood that academics spend a proportion of their time on research, so that perhaps a quarter of the government departments is too short, because it is dominated by the possibility of political masters changing at least every five years. Most research must be planned on a longer timescale.

The second is the problem of the "disappearing customer", which has been identified in contracts placed both by private companies and government departments. A person identifies a real problem, then moves off to another job in the company. Someone else moves in to his job who is not committed to solving this problem, but more interested in others. The role of the research council is to keep the academics plugging away at such difficult problems, which may take years to solve, and which are unlikely, therefore, to help the

promotion prospects of employees of the customer.

This case can, and no doubt will be, argued vigorously both ways, in front of Lord Rothschild. But the argument looks a little academic when put in the context of the threat facing university research in general from the government cuts.

Most research must be planned on a longer timescale.

• "George Brown and Tirril Harris's finding, in a model of the social causes of depression among women, shows that there are vulnerability factors, that where these are present provoking factors initiate the depression; and then there are symptom formation factors which affect the form that the depression takes. They demonstrate that these factors combine to produce particularly high rates of depression among working-class women with children at home."

Since the Social Science Research Council turned down my request for a grant, to discover the most palatable marquise of champagne, Ms Platt will have to put up with Veuve Clicquot.

Duels and fools

An intriguing coincidence yesterday. Since I started this job I have been catching up with another diarist you may have heard of, one Sam Pepys. A couple of pages every night in bed is, I have found, the ideal companion to that last whisky.

good councillors about him, when the Duke of Buckingham, the greatest man about him, is a fellow of no more subtlety than to fight about a mistress".

Then, in yesterday morning's papers, came the court report of two Norfolk men who had put the clock back and fought a duel of honour, complete with seconds, over the wife of one of them. Duelling is clearly one of those odd backwaters of behaviour that refuses to die out. Since the Second World War there have been several cases of duelling in Europe. The last I have been able to find occurred in Ipswich in 1977 when a 14-year-old schoolboy suffered stomach wounds in a duel with a fellow pupil at St Joseph's College in the town. This too was over a mutual girl friend.

There have been at least seven duels in Oxford and Cambridge since the wives displaying sabres, rapiers, umbrellas and champagne corks. And of course the "fighting fraternities" in German universities also refuse to go away, making periodic re-appearances at Heidelberg and elsewhere.

Most notably, of course, was the case of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, the Irish dramatist. At one time he was so in love with a lady in Bath that when he read a paragraph about her, impugning her character, he challenged the journalist concerned, wounded him in a fight, and compelled him to sign a retraction. This so incensed the journalist that he died within a week. Pepys commented: "This will make the world think that the King bath

woman, which seems to me to be taking things a bit far, although I trust that comment will provoke no one.

Art with heart

I found Sir Hugh Casson, the President of the Royal Academy, in fighting form yesterday when he launched a virulent attack against Britain's artless buildings. He was opening a campaign to persuade artists and architects to depart their respective ivory towers and colourless offices, and collaborate in building a civilized environment. Hear, hear. The campaign will culminate in an art and architecture conference at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London next month to improve modern building design.

The ingenuous Sir Hugh, 71, admitted he has his own problems (suffering from what he termed "symptoms of maturity"), he failed to recognize seven of 12 photographs of national sculptures shown him by a journalist during an interview earlier in the day; but he regained control of his faculties to call for a rapprochement between the artists and architects who shape our built environment.

He said: "Everyone — artists, architects and architects — has lost his nerve and the habit of collaboration. The time has come to persuade them to get together again." Artists, he said, remained locked within the confines of private creativity and architects confined themselves to designing artless buildings.

Peter Watson

When last night affected the in the attack against the British Embassy, London, similar to the one in Paris, but more serious, the Foreign Office said the UK was

notified of the decision to withdraw its diplomatic mission from the UK.

When last night affected the in the attack against the British Embassy, London, similar to the one in Paris, but more serious, the Foreign Office said the UK was

notified of the decision to withdraw its diplomatic mission from the UK.

When last night affected the in the attack against the British Embassy, London, similar to the one in Paris, but more serious, the Foreign Office said the UK was

notified of the decision to withdraw its diplomatic mission from the UK.

When last night affected the in the attack against the British Embassy, London, similar to the one in Paris, but more serious, the Foreign Office said the UK was

notified of the decision to withdraw its diplomatic mission from the UK.

When last night affected the in the attack against the British Embassy, London, similar to the one in Paris, but more serious, the Foreign Office said the UK was



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PUBLIC INEFFICIENCY

This week's admission by its chairman that British Telecom last year achieved absolutely no improvements in productivity and double the national rate of price inflation at least had the virtue of honesty. But confessions of delinquency are of little consolation to the victim public unless as a prelude to better behaviour. On past experience in the public sector there are few grounds to hope for internally generated improvements in efficiency. Managements find a cosy convenience in going along with lax work practices and have even, as in Gas, joined with the unions to resist efforts by Government to shake them up. As with local government, the public industries have increasingly been run for the benefit and convenience of those who work in them, with too little concern for either their customers or the tax-payers who finance their extravagance.

It is of course a crude simplification to think of the nationalized sector as a single animal. It contains manufacturing, mining and services; monopolies, quasi-monopolies and industries experiencing fierce international competition. Much of it is subject to 5 per cent targets of real return on capital which would prove beyond much of private industry. The capital intensive parts of it with heavy fixed costs suffer particularly badly during a recession. Degrees of inefficiency vary. But by international standards and most objective criteria none is satisfactorily efficient. The postal services, electricity and gas servicing and all public utility retailing have grown fat and lazy under monopolistic protection. Last year British Telecom allowed a 5 per cent increase in its real unit costs, as against a target reduction of 5 per cent, which is disgraceful.

This is not to say that the pursuit of harsh efficiency should be the sole and sensible objective for a nationalized industry. Social considerations need to be taken into account, especially

in the transport sector. Indeed efficiency and humane service are not always in conflict: in the United States, Bell telephone provides extensive cheap public telephones, made possible by the low unit costs of the whole system. What is required, and what we do not have, are nationalized industries which are both cheap because they are efficiently and commercially run and are also humane in the sense that they accept social considerations which do not necessarily apply to private capitalist enterprise.

Here then is a substantial chunk of the British economy whose inefficiency is a drag on our national performance and a constant irritant to individual customers. For the Government, which was elected on a commitment to rectify this situation, the problem has become more acute because of this sector's inflationary impact. Managements have made high pay settlements and then been able to recoup the cost by high price increases passed on to their captive consumers. In 1981 employees in public corporations earned on average nine per cent more than employees in the private sector; in 1979 the gap was only four per cent. Price and wage inflation in the whole public sector last year were roughly double the rate in the private sector. Had it not been so, Mrs Thatcher would now have single figure inflation, with all that implies for interest rates, tax rates and public borrowing requirement. Politically and economically her Government would already be a success in terms of its own priority of nationalized industries to the Monopolies Commission.

Rectifying that failure would be a fruitful objective for the second half of Mrs. Thatcher's administration. The public monopolies will of course prove resistant to measures designed to make their privileged lives less comfortable. But a determined government could succeed.

The first requirement of

such a programme would be to hasten the process of increasing competition. This does not mean irrelevant gestures such as the disposal of North Sea oil assets but, for example, speeding decisions to open up the telecommunications markets and to grasp the nettle of gas retailing.

Equally important, but more difficult, is to develop central government control systems which prevent the public monopolies from simply passing on to the customer the costs of their overmanning and wage capitations. External borrowing limits are already assisting in this but they are a very blunt instrument with undesirable consequences for major investments in growth areas which would attract private participation. What may be required is some technique of labour cost limits which prevents industries from inflating their current costs beyond a target ceiling, thus forcing them to finance higher pay by increased productivity. Greater efficiency would also generate internal resources for investment: each 2 per cent off the sector wage bill would produce an additional £250 million for investment annually, sufficient to finance many of the projects currently under serious discussion.

Other fruitful measures would be to streamline and strengthen the powers of the Nationalized Industry Consumer Councils, to insist on the nationalized industries providing more information and meaningful accounts; and to make more references of nationalized industries to the Monopolies Commission.

Taken together these measures should elicit a better performance from the nationalized sector. In return the Government should more openly acknowledge its crucial importance to Britain's whole social and economic infrastructure and should be prepared to invest in it more public money and allow it to borrow more freely on the private markets.

The action of trespass to the person has provided from ancient times a protection in law against direct physical interference. In my view, there is nothing to prevent a victim of rape, subsequent to a successful criminal prosecution, from bringing a civil action in trespass or assault, and thereby recovering substantial damages.

Yours faithfully,
V. DE LANEROLLE,
(Senior lecturer in law,
Polytechnic of North London),
100 Stanmore Road, N13.

January 13.

GREECE AS THE ODD MAN OUT

Mr Papandreu's government in Greece has lost little time in making its presence felt within the western groupings. This week it refused to associate itself with parts of the Nato communiqué on Poland; and that was only the latest in a series of similar moves. In December it held up for a few days agreement on a letter welcoming Spain's application to become a member of Nato. It later insisted on blocking altogether the publication of a communiqué at the end of a meeting of the alliance's defence ministers, the first time that had ever happened.

Within the European Community Greece has refused to agree to a condemnation of Libya for its intervention in Chad; and it held up agreement on the participation of Britain, France, Italy and the Netherlands in the peacekeeping force for Sinai. Earlier this month Mr Papandreu summarily sacked Mr Fotis, the deputy Foreign Minister, for approving a communiqué on Poland by the Foreign Ministers of the Ten, leaving some doubt as to how far Greece was bound by the document.

There is a clear pattern of behaviour, suggesting that Mr Papandreu's Greece not only cannot be counted on to share positions adopted by its partners, but that it sees a positive advantage in being the odd one out. This is not

altogether surprising. The Pasok party came to power with a neutralist ideology, and a commitment to pull Greece out of Nato's integrated military structure, as well as leave the European Community. In the run-up to last year's election Mr Papandreu went to some pains to qualify these commitments; and since he has been in power he has done nothing to suggest that he is on the point of leaving either Nato or the Community. He apparently believes that for the time being, at least, Greece is better off inside both organizations. But for ideological and for nationalistic reasons he wishes to assert a special identity for Greece within them both.

Ideologically, he has to show his more left-wing supporters that he is not the captive of Nato. This has the added bonus of appealing to the main, pro-Moscow Communist Party, whose votes he does not need in Parliament but which could cause difficulties through its strength in the unions. It will also do him no harm in his efforts to sell surplus oranges and lemons to the Soviet Union. So, though Greece joined the rest of Nato this week in condemning the imposition of martial law in Poland, it opted out of the sections criticizing the communist regimes in eastern Europe in general and outlining sanctions.

More broadly, the Papandreu tactics appeal to many Greeks who feel that Athens has been altogether too compliant in the past in its relations with the larger Nato countries.

It does, however, present problems for Greece's partners, both in Nato and the Community. In Nato, statements like this week's on Poland are normally based on consensus, and the same goes for foreign policy statements by the EEC foreign ministers. Dissent by one member is bound to weaken them somewhat, and could set a precedent. There is also the possibility that Greece might hold up the important process of Spanish entry to Nato if it chose to withhold its ratification as a negotiating tactic.

This will have to be met by a combination of flexibility and firmness. In Nato it is clearly essential that full account should be taken of Greek sensibilities towards Turkey — though no more of Turkey's own sensibilities. In the Community, it has to be recognized that under Mr Papandreu Greece has a markedly more pro-Arab position than any of the other members. Attempts must be made to accommodate it. But there will be occasions, like this week's discussion of Poland in Nato, when at the end of the day the others will have to go ahead without Greece rather than allow themselves to be hamstrung.

THE DOUBLE ORDEAL OF RAPE

When a victim of a particularly brutal rape is so badly affected by her ordeal that she is unable to give evidence at the trial of her alleged attackers, and the case against them is therefore dropped, there is a conspicuous failure of justice. The decision of the Scottish prosecuting authorities to discontinue proceedings against three youths accused of rape (and attempted murder) appears to suggest that the more horrible the experience of a rape victim, the greater the chances of the rapists getting off. That is not, of course, what the prosecution are saying. They are the prisoners of the laws of evidence, just as their English counterparts would be in similar circumstances. Criticism can be made, however, of the decision to drop the prosecution altogether. The girl may not be in a fit mental state to give evidence now, but she might recover sufficiently to do so in future. The charges ought to have been

allowed to lie on the file, with the possibility of their being reviewed at a later date.

Some critics go further. Why, they ask, if the victim cannot or will not give evidence herself, is it not possible for her evidence to be presented to the court in written form? In that way, perpetrators of horrific crimes will still be brought to book, even though they have put their victim out of circulation. But to introduce such a reform would be to interfere fundamentally with the basic rights of persons accused of crime. It would, too, in practice reverse the presumption of innocence. There are two main defences to a charge of rape open to an accused: that he was not the rapist, which raises the question of identity, or that the woman consented. In both cases, it is essential that the accused be given the opportunity, through his lawyer, to cross-examine the complainant. Yours sincerely,

PHILIP GRAHAM,
Institute of Child Health,
The Hospital for Sick Children,
Great Ormond Street, WC1.
January 5.

Reconsideration in rape case

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC

Sir, Mr Jack Ashley (Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, South) should desist from publicly badgering Judge Bertrand Richards to reconsider his sentence in the recent rape case at Ipswich in Crown Court, through the exercise of the power in section 12(2), Courts Act 1971.

That section provides that within 28 days a sentence "may be varied or rescinded". Looked at alone, the words are capable of bearing the meaning that a sentence passed could be varied by the imposition of a more severe penalty. Mr Ashley, not being a lawyer, may be forgiven for not knowing, however, that the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) has definitely stated otherwise, in a case where a Recorder varied a sentence from a suspended sentence of two years' imprisonment to an immediate sentence of two years.

The Court said: "That section was included in order that slips made by the judge can be corrected, be they slips of the tongue or slips of memory, and it was necessary to have such a provision to enable that to be done. It was quite wrong, in our view, that it should be used as it was in this case, for a fundamental change of sentence which had been suspended into one which was not."

(A) The other unions accepted the obligation on productivity but Aslef asserts, not only that the promise was unconditional, but that the parallel agreement committed the unions merely to resume negotiations on productivity through the normal channels.

If the BR version is right, at least a gentleman's agreement was breached and they are fully entitled in sticking to it. If the truth lies with Aslef, it is understandable that its members, having been persuaded that the employer has reneged on a promise, are in militant mood. (It was the perception of a broken promise that so inflamed the civil servants.)

Mr Rose (January 12) writes of "six commitments to productivity". It is worth noting that the unions are in no position to "commit" their members without consulting them, but we can commit ourselves to do their utmost to persuade. Yours faithfully.

RICHARD DOBSON,
16 Marchmont Road,
Richmond,
Surrey.

January 13.

From Mr Leonard A. Jackson

Sir, Mr Ray Buckton's open letter to commuters (January 11) merits only one conclusion: he is a hair-splitting Luddite.

In appalling weather conditions, when we have been saddened by the deaths of brave lifeboatmen and warmed by the courage of helicopter crews and many other unsung heroes in alleviating distress, the members of Aslef have shown themselves to be stony-hearted. What shall it profit a man . . . ?

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

L. A. JACKSON,
Caritas,
Heathside Lane,
Hindhead,
Surrey.

January 13.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Crucial ambiguities in rail dispute

From Sir Richard Dobson

Sir, — the railway strike is on. Inasmuch as public sympathy may have some effect on its duration and on the form of its eventual solution, the public is entitled to certain information.

There has been no lack of utterance by the protagonists in your columns and other media.

The following can be postulated from published information.

(A) The BR negotiators left the Acas meeting in August having agreed to pay the extra 3 per cent on the understanding (but not the express condition) that the unions committed themselves, in the time available, to finding ways and means of improving productivity. Although there was not a conditional relationship, BR must have said this, as they say now, that they could not find the money if they did not get the productivity.

(B) The other unions accepted

the obligation on productivity but Aslef asserts, not only that the

promise was unconditional, but that the parallel agreement

committed the unions merely to

resume negotiations on produc-

tivity through the normal chan-

nels.

If the BR version is right, at

least a gentleman's agreement

was breached and they are fully

entitled in sticking to it. If the

truth lies with Aslef, it is

understandable that its mem-

bers, having been persuaded that

the employer has reneged on a

promise, are in militant mood.

(C) The other unions accepted

the obligation on productivity but

Aslef asserts, not only that the

promise was unconditional, but

that the parallel agreement

committed the unions merely to

resume negotiations on produc-

tivity through the normal chan-

nels.

If the BR version is right, at

least a gentleman's agreement

was breached and they are fully

entitled in sticking to it. If the

truth lies with Aslef, it is

understandable that its mem-

bers, having been persuaded that

the employer has reneged on a

promise, are in militant mood.

(D) The other unions accepted

the obligation on productivity but

Aslef asserts, not only that the

promise was unconditional, but

that the parallel agreement

committed the unions merely to

resume negotiations on produc-

tivity through the normal chan-

nels.

If the BR version is right, at

least a gentleman's agreement

was breached and they are fully

entitled in sticking to it. If the

truth lies with Aslef, it is

understandable that its mem-

bers, having been persuaded that

the employer has reneged on a

promise, are in militant mood.

(E) The other unions accepted

the obligation on productivity but

Aslef asserts, not only that the

promise was unconditional, but

that the parallel agreement

committed the unions merely to

resume negotiations on produc-

tivity through the normal chan-

nels.

If the BR version is right, at

least a gentleman's agreement

was breached and they are fully

entitled in sticking to it. If the

truth lies with Aslef, it is

understandable that its mem-

bers, having been persuaded that

the employer has reneged on a

promise, are in militant mood.

(F)

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duke of Kent, as president, will visit the Technician Education Council's new offices at Central House, Upper Woburn Street, WC1, on February 16. The Duke of Kent will visit the Telephone Manufacturing Company at Malmesbury on February 12. The Duke of Kent will attend the Electronics Components Industry Federation annual dinner at The Savoy Hotel on February 18.

The Duchess of Kent will open Emmanuel Court, Clifton, for the Bristol Old People's Welfare Incorporated, and, as chief patron, will visit the Camp Hill Trust, Newnham, Gloucestershire, on February 18.

The Duke of Kent, Vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will open a seminar on Francophone West Africa at Church House, Great Smith Street, on February 23.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. D. Knight and Miss S. C. Joyce

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs R. J. Knights of Bath, and Sally, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. D. Joyce, of Castor, Cambridgeshire.

Mr D. Geddes and Miss S. Mellor

The engagement is announced between David, only son of Mr and Mrs Ford Geddes of The Manor, Berwick St John, Shafesbury, Dorset, and Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Mellor, of Westfield, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.

Mr J. R. Hatchard and Miss D. K. McGill

The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Mr and Mrs K. E. W. Hatchard, of Milford on Sea and Nassau, Bahamas, and Diana, eldest daughter of Colonel and Mrs J. K. McGill, of Milford on Sea, Hampshire.

Mr B. Samuelson and Miss N. Hesketh

The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of the late Mr and Mrs William Douglas-Dasher, of Wirral, Cheshire, and Nicky, daughter of Professor Dr (Med) and Frau Werner Selberg, of Hamburg, West Germany.

Mr G. E. Hall and Miss C. E. Bowyer

The engagement is announced between Graham, only son of Mr and Mrs H. R. Hall of Buntingford, Bedfordshire, and Carolyn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R. E. Bowyer, of Chandlers Ford, Hampshire.

Mr F. Perez and Miss E. J. King

The engagement is announced between Francisco, son of Mr and Mrs G. Perez, of London, SW2, and Elizabeth Jeanette, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Raymond King, of 185 Meadow Road, London, W5.

Mr L. A. Collins and Miss S. Shamni

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs S. Collins, of Cricklewood, London, and Sarah, daughter of the late Mr Z. Shamni and of Mrs R. Shamni, of Jerusalem, Israel.

Mr K. Rosell and Miss M. Svensson

The engagement is announced between Karl, younger son of Mr Gunnar W. Rosell, MR, and Mrs Rosell of Gothenburg, Sweden, and Mona, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Oskar Svensson, of Malmö, Sweden.

25 Years Ago

From The Times of Monday January 14 1957

Mr Macmillan's Team

Outstanding features of the new Cabinet are the retention of Mr Selwyn Lloyd as Foreign Secretary, Mr James Stuart (Secretary of State for Scotland), Sir Walter Monckton (Paymaster General), Mr Head (Minister of Defence), Mr Buchan-Bepburn (Minister of Works) and Lord Sefton (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster). Mr Thorneycroft, who becomes

Reception

English Tourist Board Prince and Princess Michael of Kent attended a reception at Goldsmith's Hall last night, before an inaugural celebration in St Paul's Cathedral to mark the start of Maritime England Year. Mr Michael Montague, chairman, and members of the English Tourist Board, were the hosts. Other guests included the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London, the Marquess and Marchioness of Worcester, Viscount and Viscountess Gernon, Sir Martin and Lady Forte, Sir Hugh and Lady Crook and Sir Hugh Howard.

St Felix School, Southwold

Spring Term began yesterday with 355 girls in the senior school and 75 in the preparatory school. St George's, Rachel Booth and Elizabeth Green joined headmistress, second and Rebecca Candler is second head. The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich will confirm candidates in the chapel on March 12. The Music Festival will be held on March 23 and 25. Term ends on March 26.

Morehead Scholarships

The 1982-1986 Morehead Scholarships to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have been awarded to Stela Backer (Gordonston), A. J. Balgarne (Wellington), D. H. Brown (Clifton) and Victoria-Louise McFad (Haberdashery).

Baptism services are recognized

The Church of Scotland and the Roman Catholic Church have announced the mutual recognition of each other's service of baptism. They are the last two large churches in Britain who have hitherto not been covered by the general agreement that baptism in one church should be accepted as valid by another.

Mr D. P. Danher and Mrs E. Selberg

The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of the late Mr and Mrs William Douglas-Dasher, of Wirral, Cheshire, and Eva, younger daughter of Professor Dr (Med) and Frau Werner Selberg, of Hamburg, West Germany.

Captain B. P. Horning and Miss T. L. Allan

The engagement is announced between Bernard Horning, Irish Guards, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Horning, of The Warren, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, and Tracy, daughter of Colonel and Mrs Giles Allan, of Chapel Square, Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.

Mr J. O. N. Stewart-Moore and Miss J. Baker

The engagement is announced between James Oliver Norman, only son of Commander J. A. Stewart-Moore, DL, RN(Retd) and Mrs Stewart-Moore, of Ballymena, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, and daughter of Mr and Mrs T. Baker, of 16 Tudor Way, Hillingdon, Middlesex.

Memorial service

Mr E. G. S. Cayzer

A memorial service for Mr Bernard Cayzer was held yesterday in the Lord Mayor's Chapel, Bristol. The Ven Leslie Williams officiated and the lesson was read by Mr Peter Buckley. The Lord Mayor of Bristol, representatives of Bristol Old Vic, St John Ambulance, Chester Home Guard, the Royal Engineers' Charitable Trust, the Union Castle Line and Timbsbury Parish Council and residents of Timbsbury were among the large congregation.

Christening

The infant children of Mr and Mrs Christopher Aravold, Mr and Mrs James Aravold and Mr and Mrs John Aravold were christened Tobis Carl, Eleanor Pippa and Angus David Merriman at St Michael's Chappel-of-Ease, Westhumble, Dorking, on January 9.

Chancellor of the Exchequer at the age of 47 has been President of the Board of Trade for over five years. The Ministerialists who have dropped from the Cabinet are Major Lloyd-George (Home Secretary), Mr James Stuart (Secretary of State for Scotland), Sir Walter Monckton (Paymaster General), Mr Head (Minister of Defence), Mr Buchan-Bepburn (Minister of Works) and Lord Sefton (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster).

COLD CRISIS

Please help now

The present bitter weather is having a disastrous effect on the work of Help the Aged which depends on your generous support for the means of providing help to those in need.

Because of the excessively cold period Help the Aged is cut off from the source of some of its funds. Young people are prevented from taking part in sponsored events and the forced immobility of supporters and the impossibility of carrying out certain collections has reduced the availability of funds at our disposal.

Help the Aged for example could become £50,000 per week short for its current programme of relief. This is the equivalent of 5 new minibuses, or supplying a qualified medical team for six months urgent work among old refugees in Somalia, or the provision of another much needed Day Centre for lonely old people in the U.K.

Will you please give the maximum additional support now, to avoid us having to reduce our aid to the desperately needy aged.

Please send to The Hon. Secretary, Rt. Hon. Lord Maybray-King.

Help the Aged

Room TIE, FREEPOST 30, London W1E 7JZ. (No stamp needed).



Jac Zeisler, of Chelsea School of Art, showing off her prizewinning entry in the Phone of the Future competition yesterday. The winners' designs will be considered for manufacture.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

1982 being the International Year of Charles Darwin, we proudly bring you an extract from yet another new book *Inspector Darwin Works It Out*.

"Thank you all for turning up so promptly."

Inspector Charles Darwin looked round at the eight people gathered in the library. The eight people who had been present on the night Lord Garnish had died. One of them had delivered the fatal blow. For 12 chapters Darwin had been gathering, sifting and selecting evidence. Now the last chapter had arrived and it was time to present the reader with his conclusions.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I don't think you will be too shocked if I tell you that one of us here tonight is a killer."

Those present gasped and looked uneasily at each other, all except Lady Garnish who smiled faintly and went on clutching her hip flask of brandy. She had not heard a word addressed to her for two days.

"On the night of the murder you were all engaged in a light-hearted amateur dramatic production of *La Ronde*, a comedy by Mr Arthur Schnitzler. With some

"But fully to understand this death, I think we have to go back a few years. About three million to be precise. To time when there was a struggle of survival between species of whose size and strength we can have little conception. A time when to survive at all meant defending your life and if necessary killing others with no compunction; when those who were not fit to survive were weeded out by the forces of nature."

The company moved uneasily. Mrs Whittington voiced the thoughts of all them. "I don't see what this has to do with Lord Garnish's death, Inspector. You're not suggesting he was killed by a

"Don't forget — coming soon: exclusive transcripts of Charles Darwin on the Parkinson Show."

University news

London

Appointments

The Rev E. Ashby, Vicar of Holy Ascension, Clerkenwell, has been appointed Reader in Charge of Wraxall, Diocese of Bath and Wells.

The Rev F. G. Cooke, Rector of Caistor, Lincolnshire, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev K Fletcher, Curate of St Paul, Brixton, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Thomas, Elephant and Castle, same diocese.

The Rev R. F. G. Jones, Vicar of St Lawrence, Alton, Diocese of Winchester, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev G. B. Stevenson, Curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev H. W. Hopkinson, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev G. B. Stevenson, Curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev C. G. T. Jackson, Curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev G. B. Stevenson, Curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

The Rev R. H. Marshall, assistant curate of St. Edmundsbury, has been appointed Reader in Charge of St. Edmundsbury, Diocese of Bury St Edmunds, and Brechin, same diocese.

Gentleman
of quality,
Page 13

Business News

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 15 1982

FABRICATION & ASSEMBLY

Machines/Steel structures.
From wood burning stoves to 30 ton trailers.
From fire escapes to complete buildings.

Stanmill Company Ltd.
Wincanton, Hants.
Phone: (025 652 2280) Telex: 92851 Forest O.

Daily Mail loses £3m as group profits fall

By Our Financial Staff

The daily Mail, one of Britain's most popular daily newspapers, lost more than £3m last year, Fleet Street sources say. Associated Newspapers, the parent group, yesterday announced pre-tax profits down from £12.5m to £16.2m.

Since the closure of the Evening News the mail has been bearing the cost of Fleet St printing complex alone. The launch of the Sunday Mail, in late spring, will spread these costs.

The profits were much less than the £18m, £21m forecast by City analysts. But they took the share prices down by only 2p to 173p. The dividend is unchanged, with a final of 5.9p, at 10.4p.

Among costs in 1981 that reduced profits were interest charges on sums for the Evening News redundancies. The turnaround in profit in Fleet St at more than £1.5m, bringing interest charges to a debit of £700,000 against a sizable credit on interest last year.

Other adverse factors for the group last year included lower profits from the Argyl field where rig repairs and conservative treatment of the depreciation and depletion hit profits. The magazines were in loss by more than £1m, because of its United States publishing interests, it is believed.

The group's regional newspapers showed slightly reduced profits, down by about £1m at just below £13m.

The fall in the share price is less than it might have been because of possible plus factors in 1982. These include a full year with the Daily Mail at the present cover price of 15p, introduced last July, better profits from oil, and a possible upturn in advertising revenue if there is an end to recession.

Associated Newspaper executives were in board meetings yesterday, and not available for comment.

Treasury plan aims at 7% inflation rate

By David Blake, Economics Editor

The Treasury is working on plans to update the Government's economic policy which are likely to involve accepting monetary growth of at least 8 per cent in the financial year which starts in April 1983.

This means a significant loosening of the figures contained in the medium term financial strategy drawn up in Spain in 1980. But it is argued that technical factors, not weakening of a resolve to fight inflation, lie behind the shift.

It is thought that the new money target which is emerging will fit in with hopes that next year inflation will be down to 7 per cent and growth in output up to 2 per cent.

A change in the speed at which money goes round in the economy is hoped for which will make this 9 per cent step up in the total national income in cash consistent with the 8 per cent money target.

A little-noticed footnote in the original medium-term strategy which set out the Government targets is turning out to have crucial importance. This said that the way in which money supply was defined for target purposes might need to be changed from time to time.

It is argued that changes in the banking system, especially the growth of bank lending for mortgages, mean that more things are now being counted in sterling M3 than were there when the original strategy was drawn up. This means that higher figures for monetary growth as measured by M3 will not have any extra inflationary impact.

The Government promised at the time of the 1980 Budget to reduce monetary growth to "about 6 per cent by 1984." This has been abandoned.

The action comes after the Government has been forced

to concede that monetary growth in the 1982-3 year will be around 9 per cent.

This is the very top end of the 5 to 9 per cent range which the Government set itself in drawing up the initial plan. Most outside commentators interpreted it as meaning that the Government was aiming for growth of about 7 per cent, the middle of the range, this financial year.

Treasury officials will be completing their plans over the coming weeks as part of preparations for the Budget. It is intended to give the Cabinet a chance to have a full strategy discussion in the next three weeks so that they can make their views known by early February.

The Treasury will have drawn up its economic forecasts by then, including its assessment of the likely level of public borrowing.

There will almost certainly be some indication of the Government's thinking on the exchange rate at Budget time in addition to announcements on monetary and tax policy.

Total bank lending to the private sector increased by £1.08m in the three weeks to mid-December, compared with the record rise of £2.558m during the previous banking month.

To the extent that at least some of this lending may represent borrowing to meet tax payments still owing to the Exchequer since last summer, the underlying trend in lending may be slowly coming more into line with what the authorities would like to see.

The effect of slower credit expansion has been to leave sterling M3 0.2 per cent higher on the month, as foreshadowed in the Bank of England's preliminary estimate last week. M1, the narrow money supply, grew by 0.1 per cent.

Financial Editor, page 13

Merchant bank advisers dismissed

ACC takeover decided

By Philip Robinson

Mr Robert Holmes a'Court, the Australian financier, launched his takeover bid for Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation late last night amid reports that ACC had dismissed N. M. Rothschild, its merchant bank advisers, and the Takeover Panel had insisted on a redraft of part of the offer.

ACC believed that Mr Holmes a'Court's terms of the offer now satisfy the Takeover Panel and the bid was given to the Independent Broadcasting Authority on Wednesday night. The IBA would have to approve Mr Holmes a'Court's proposals which appear to suggest a freezing of ACC control of Central Independent Television while details of how to reduce its holding from 51 per cent are worked out.

It was not until 7 pm that the terms were finally disclosed, together with confirmation of Lord Grade's departure from the chair.

It emerged late yesterday that ACC had dismissed Rothschild because the bank would not agree to sign the

takeover document without a thorough examination of ACC. Advice is now being given by Standard Chartered Bank.

It is understood that the terms of the offer now satisfy the Takeover Panel and the bid was given to the Independent Broadcasting Authority on Wednesday night. The IBA would have to approve Mr Holmes a'Court's

proposals at a board meeting yesterday but made no subsequent statement. However it now seems likely that the IBA will give its approval but will not make a statement until after detailed terms have been announced to shareholders.

Takeover timetable

December 1980: ACC told by IBA to sell off 49 per cent of AT&T.

May 1981: Mr Robert Holmes a'Court's Perth television station announces it holds 5 per cent interest in non-voting shares of ACC.

June: ACC announces first fall in profits for five years, down from £16.3m to £14.1m.

July: Mr Holmes a'Court raises stake to 16.68 per cent.

August: ACC decides to take drastic action to tackle problems in its TV arm. Film division and records and music divisions.

September: Mr Jack Gill, Lord Grade's right-hand man for 25 years resigns as managing director of ACC. Lord Grade reduces his voting stake in ACC to 22 per cent. Mr Holmes a'Court announces he now has 28 per cent of the non-voting shares.

October: Mr Holmes a'Court announces he has lifted his stake to 50.1 per cent and is appointed to the board.

December: Lord Matthews increases personal stake in ACC to about 8 per cent of the voting shares.

January 1982: ACC announces first fall in profits for five years, down from £16.3m to £14.1m.

July: Mr Holmes a'Court raises stake to 16.68 per cent.

August: ACC decides to take drastic action to tackle problems in its TV arm. Film division and records and music divisions.

September: Mr Jack Gill, Lord Grade's right-hand man for 25 years resigns as managing director of ACC. Lord Grade reduces his voting stake in ACC to 22 per cent. Speculation that Lord Grade

will sue ACC for damages. IBA says it has been notified by ACC that takeover offer has been made.

in ACC's non-voting shares to 50.1 per cent and is appointed to the board.

December: Lord Matthews increases personal stake in ACC to about 8 per cent of the voting shares.

January 1982: ACC announces first fall in profits for five years, down from £16.3m to £14.1m.

July: Mr Holmes a'Court raises stake to 16.68 per cent.

August: ACC decides to take drastic action to tackle problems in its TV arm. Film division and records and music divisions.

September: Mr Jack Gill, Lord Grade's right-hand man for 25 years resigns as managing director of ACC. Lord Grade reduces his voting stake in ACC to 22 per cent. Speculation that Lord Grade

will sue ACC for damages. IBA says it has been notified by ACC that takeover offer has been made.

North Sea output rises by 10pc

By Rupert Morris

North Sea oil production in 1981 was 90 million tonnes, an increase of 10 per cent on the 1980 figure, the Department of Energy said yesterday.

Taken in conjunction with the increase in exploration wells from 35 in 1980 to 54 in 1981, and estimates of recoverable reserves being revised upwards by BP and Texaco, it makes an encouraging picture for the industry in 1982.

But oil industry sources pointed out that exploration was not the same as development, which could be severely curtailed by a continuation of what is seen as an unduly restrictive tax regime.

Texaco has announced two new investments: underwater well units costing up to £150m in the Tartan field, which has proved difficult to exploit for geological reasons; and production equipment worth £250m in Block 14/20.

Of these Tartan is by far the bigger long-term project, with 200 million barrels of recoverable reserves, but daily production estimates for 1982 have been halved because of the geological problems.

BP, meanwhile, has revised its estimates for recoverable reserves from the northernmost Magnus field from 450 million barrels to 565 million barrels.

The rapid increase in exploration is regarded by most oil industry experts as being related primarily to the seventh round of licences awarded last year. A boom akin to the mid-70s is not envisaged.

Department of Energy figures reveal, however, that worries about taxes have not stopped a steady increase. Production between January and November 1981 was 81,430,000 tonnes, compared with 80,467,000 tonnes for the whole of 1980.

The final 1981 figures now look likely to be well towards the top end of Government estimates of 80-95 million tonnes.

Production of between 85 and 110 million tonnes is forecast for 1982.

Mines and rail gloom hit pound

By Frances Williams

The prospect of a miners' strike, coupled with the troubles on the railways, has cast a long shadow over sterling on the world's financial markets this week.

Yesterday, it fell for the sixth consecutive day against a buoyant dollar, losing 50 points to close in London at \$1.8630 after dipping to a low of \$1.8550 at one stage. This brings its losses this week alone to more than 5% cents.

The pound's weakness against the dollar has been compounded by the American currency's strength, founded on expectations that United States interest rates are rising. In spite of continuing signs of recession many analysts fear that the Federal Reserve Board may act to tighten credit policy because of the economic crisis there. And the same thing could happen in the Russian trade if the West goes ahead with threatened sanctions in the next few days.

Anglo-Polish trade warning

British liner shipping has been forced out or the trade with Poland because of the economic crisis there. And the same thing could happen in the Russian trade if the West goes ahead with threatened sanctions in the next few days.

The board's stormy reception reflected strong feeling in parts of Scotland against the takeover.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet is understood to have heard the decision by Mr Peter Balfour, Secretary for Trade, to accept the Monopolies Commission's recommendation to block the two £500m takeover bids for the bank.

Shareholders voted 83 to 17 against Mr Balfour's reappointment, but after an adjournment he was re-appointed on a card poll by 51m votes to 1.2m with the help of proxies held by Sir Michael Herries, the chairman.

Mr Balfour, who is chairman of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and one of Scotland's most prominent businessmen, said afterwards: "Some shareholders don't approve of what the bank is doing, which they are entitled to do, and they are exercised by this, voting against the first non-executive director to come up for re-election, which happened to be me."

The board's stormy reception reflected strong feeling in parts of Scotland against the takeover.

However, the pound has also lost ground against Continental currencies such as the Deutsche mark.

CBI tough line on lame ducks

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

will have to let one or two go in the future."

Selective action by Government to promote "sunrise industries", Sir Terence Becket, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday.

In a keynote speech on industrial policy at the Stockport lecture, the London Business School — Sir Terence said: "The restructuring of British industry will be carried out on much sounder basis if it is done at company level than if we wait for some grand government plan."

But there were areas where the Government could aid casualties, such as core industries, to give them breathing space for reorganization and reorganization. There should be a time-limit for aid, he said. "We really

want to let one or two go in the future."

Selective action by Government to promote "sunrise industries" had raised strong reactions because of industrialists' fears of waste, involvement of civil servants and market distortions. But the Government should not be entirely unselective in areas such as educational policy or the dispensing of research and development assistance to private industry.

Governments had a primary role in defining the overall economic framework within which industry operated, but they also developed policies across the board for many issues — from energy and taxation to regional development and exchange rate levels. The only way to see if such policies were pulling in the same direction was to establish industrial

priorities and needs of priority areas.

A welcome element in the Government's initiative on information technology was the setting up of an advisory panel of businessmen within the Cabinet Office to advise the minister, Sir Terence said.

Industry was not looking for a middle way between the policies of the Conservative and Labour parties or indulging in nostalgia for 1960s Thatcherism. "Some of us are convinced that a number of our present troubles began in that period," Sir Terence said.

The CBI faced problems with any British Government. A long-term policy was needed for the nationalized industries, with government emphasis on limited management intervention, Sir Terence said.

In the six months to August last year UBSL lost for the first time £831,000 compared with profits of £2.3m last year.

The company's products, which are sold principally to the computer, telecommunications and military equipment supply industries, are believed to have sales potential of \$1,000m a year.

Financial Editor, page 13

Best foot forward

Start-rite, Britain's oldest shoemaker which has been manufacturing at Norwich since 1972, is creating 60 new jobs, increasing its work force by 7 per cent to nearly 900. The company, mainly a producer of children's shoes, expects to recruit further as sales, already up 25 per cent on last year, continue to grow. Forward orders for the spring are already up 18 per cent.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

BL to produce four new models in Metro range

BL is to produce four more versions of the Metro this year, the United Kingdom's best selling British-built car. They include a high performance model to be launched in the Spring and the Metro Commerciale for export to France.

The Commerciale breaks entirely new ground for BL. It has been designed specifically to exploit loopholes in French taxation laws. Similar moves to extend model ranges have caused

serious production problems for BL; but yesterday Mr Harold Musgrave, chairman of the company's light medium car operations, said:

"That is all in the past. For the first time in our history we now have a combination of individual expertise and computer-based production control systems linking Longbridge and its feeder plants which allows us to handle such complexity efficiently."

Yen for robots

Kawasaki Heavy Industries is to invest 17,000 yen (24,000m) to build what it claims will be the world's biggest robot factory. The factory will be completed by early 1984 and will use robots for tasks such as spot welding. The company expects to produce 2,000 robots a year at the factory.

Japan closures

BSC boost for S & W Berisford

by Michael Prest

S & W Berisford, the commodity trading and processing group which last year acquired almost 40 per cent of British Sugar Corporation in a bitterly fought battle, increased pretax profits for 1981 by 12.7 per cent to £40.7m.

But without its equity share of British Sugar's profits, Berisford would have seen its own profits grow by just 2.7 per cent to £37m. Mr Gordon Percival, a Berisford director, described 1981 as "a year of very demanding conditions."

The violent fluctuations in the cocoa market had been

particularly testing. Mr Percival said: "Cocoa, normally the most profitable commodity for Berisford, was supplanted by sugar, and profits from coffee rose more or less to match those from cocoa."

Nevertheless, the final dividend of 7.1 gross means that after allowing for last year's capitalization losses, the dividend has been increased by 15.4 per cent to 10.7p gross. Mr Percival pointed out, however, that the dividend cover is unchanged, earnings per share covering the dividend 2.4

Berisford is also contemplating further expansion, prohibited as the company is from adding to its British Sugar holding until after the end of June. Mr Percival said the Berisford was close to reaching agreement on buying up to £15m of a commodity trading company based in Switzerland.

One of Berisford's other companies to suffer in the adverse trading conditions of last year was Tom Martin Metals, Tame Valley Alloys, an aluminium processor, also suffered a sharp fall in profits.

Mothercare merger goes ahead

By our Financial Staff

Habitat and Mothercare, joined together yesterday by shareholders' approval of Habitat's £11m reverse takeover, will continue to trade separately, though there may be separate Habitat and Mothercare shops under one roof in certain properties. Mr Terence Conran, the chairman, said:

The new company will be known as Habitat Mothercare and has been admitted to the Stock Exchange official list. Dealings in the new company begin today. According to Mr Conran, the inelegance of the group's new name may be changed in future. A possible title for the holding company is the Parent Company, he said. No objections were raised and no questions were asked by the dozen shareholders at the two separate meetings. Formal approval was given by 50.5m votes to 2m. The combined group will collaborate in textiles, catalogues and property negotiations. Habitat will contribute its expertise in design and styling of maternity and children's products and store layout.

£3m turnaround at Muirhead

By Drew Johnston

A £3m profits turnaround at Kent-based Muirhead, the electronics and communications group, pushed its shares up 10p to 122p yesterday. Profits for the year to September were £882,000 against a loss last year of £2.7m. Sales went up from £25.15m to £28.55, and a loss per share at 25.2p was turned into earnings of 7.3p. The dividend for the year totals 4.28p gross. No dividend was paid last year.

An extraordinary loss of £93,000 arose from the sale of assets in Muirhead Radio

through new products with high profit margins", he said.

At the half year, the company showed the first sign that these actions would be effective when it reduced its losses to only £95,000.

Work for United Kingdom and overseas defence industries has kept the company's order book steady. About 22 per cent of production last year was direct exports, though its overseas companies raised the overall level of foreign sales to half the total.

The recovery did not come

associated companies fell from £231,000 to £259,000.

The interim dividend was held at 2.85p gross. Mr Peter Jones, chairman, said in his statement that the marked recovery in profits in due largely to the restructuring of the group, which the company's management has undertaken since the start of the recession. Trading was still difficult the new rise of interest rates had added to the problems, but the company was expecting profits in the second half of the year to be similar to those of the first.

Part of the recovery is understood to be the result of the cost-cutting exercise carried out over the past 18 months. In the accounts for the year to July, redundancy costs of £105,000 were recorded.

The market's interpretation of the company's improvement led to an increase in the share price of 8p to 83p. This gives it a market capitalization of around £7.6m, slightly up on last year's total valuation.

Broker and Elliott Group end dispute

A dispute over whether stockbroking firm Bone Fitzgerald had given investment advice to a director of the Elliott Group of Peterborough while at the same time acting as advisers to Jenkins & Cattell, which was making a contested takeover bid for Elliott, has been resolved.

In a statement before Christmas, the Elliott board said that Mr Carl Chow, an Elliott director, had decided to accept an offer which was being resisted by the rest of the board, after discussion with Bone Fitzgerald, his personal investment advisers.

In its agreed statement published by all parties yesterday, Elliott said it has recognized that the release and newspaper articles based upon it are capable of being understood to constitute allegations of serious professional misconduct by Bone Fitzgerald. Elliott and their advisors, Greyhound and Guaranty, said they are happy to confirm that no such allegations were intended, and that the press release was not in any way intended to cast doubt on the professional integrity and reputation of Bone Fitzgerald. Any such suggestion, they say, is regretted and entirely repudiated.

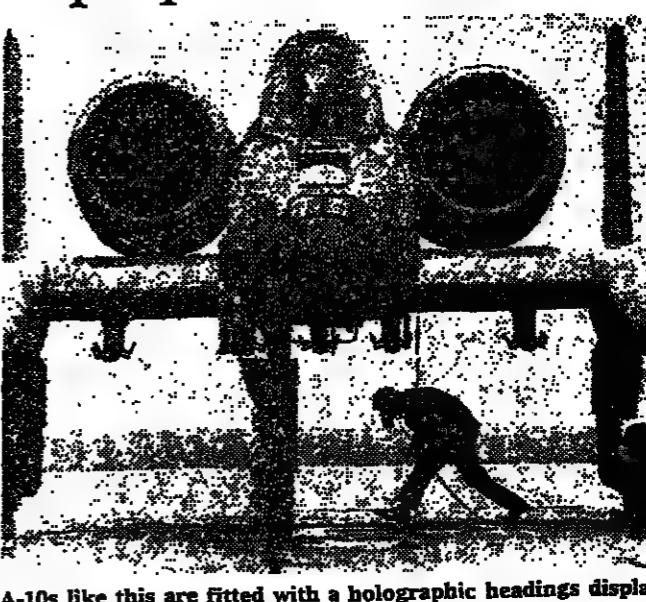
The amount of available information on the equipment is restricted because this first application is for military aircraft. If past experience is a good guide, the modification of the process to the civil field is only a matter of time. More exciting developments in the future, however, lie in the possibilities of three dimensional television.

The two aircraft, the F-16 multirole fighter and the A-10 close-up support aircraft, are the most recent machines to enter service with the United States Air Force, and hence are equipped with the latest electronic aids. This includes an improved version of the device referred to as a headup display, HUD, with which modern low-flying military aircraft operate. This method was pioneered some time ago by GEC-Marconi Electronics, whereby pilots have flight information projected optically into their field of vision; thus eliminating the need to look down at the instrument panel.

The alphanumeric characters and symbols which appear before the pilot are generated by a computer. Now a new generation of headup display incorporating

Technology by Pearce Wright

Marconi keeps pilots' heads up



A-10 like this are fitted with a holographic headings display system.

holography has been devised under a \$100m contract to supply the USAF with a system code named Lantirn Hud. It is a scheme by which pilots will see the night scene ahead of the terrain over which they are flying, at low level, as part of their headup display.

A hologram is the equivalent of a photographic negative in that it contains an image of an object that can be reproduced. But a hologram plate looks like an undecipherable pattern of stripes and whorls. Yet those unrecognizable blurs have some remarkable properties.

For example, a three-dimensional image of an object can be projected from the hologram recordings; and that image can be photographed by conventional means to give a picture as clear as the solid original object.

An image is created from a hologram plate by reversing the process of manufacture. A laser beam is shone at the plate. Part is transmitted and part is reflected, reproducing an image at the spot from the position from the plate of the original object. If the process is done in a specific way, the image appears in three dimensions.

The Marconi Avionics Lantirn Hud uses holographic generated images of flight numbers and symbols which can be now merged in a "combiner" with infra-red wide-angle pictures of the terrain.

Business appointments

Financial director at Bowthorpe

Mr C. M. McCarthy has been named group financial director of Bowthorpe Holdings.

Mr Tim Sharpen has been appointed managing director of Thomas Nelson. He succeeds Mr John Jermine, who becomes executive chairman.

Mr David Massam has been appointed secretary of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry to succeed Mr Arthur Shaw, whose president and secretary, Mr Shaw will continue as deputy director of the association and secretary of its Code of Practice Committee until his retirement on March 31. Miss Christine Hay has been appointed assistant secretary.

Mr Andrew McDowell has been named director of George Wimpey. Previously a director of the Weir Group, he has been appointed to take up appointment as managing director of British Smelting Constructions.

Mr Gervase A. Thomas has joined the board of Leyland Paints & Wallpaper.

Sir Hugh Fraser and Mr David McEldain have been appointed to the board of GRA Property Trust as co-executive directors.

Mr John Bailey has been appointed sales and marketing director of ERF.

Mr Alastair Haughton has been appointed deputy managing director of National Girobank. He was formerly senior director.

Mr S. L. Finch, who retired last year as deputy chairman of the Weir Group, has been appointed to the board of P.I. Castings Group as chairman-elect to succeed Mr J. F. B. Jackson, when Mr Jackson retires.

Mr J. A. Connell has joined the board of Carrington Vyse & Co as executive director. Mr Connell is a main board director of Heinz Inc and is the senior vice president of Heinz, responsible for UK and European operations.

Mr E. R. C. Farmer has been appointed to the board of Glaxo Holdings. Mr Farmer remains managing director of Glaxo Operations.

"The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ... is one of the great banking empires of the modern commercial world."

— The Times, London 9th April 1981

- * 39,000 staff
- * 150,000 shareholders
- * More than 900 Offices
- * In 53 countries
- * 2,000 computer terminals
- * 5 million plus on-line accounts
- * 'Speedlink', our own communications network, connects our offices worldwide
- * 38 of the top 50 multi-national corporations are customers
- * Assets in excess of £19,000 million

The main members of the Group are:

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

The British Bank of the Middle East

Marine Midland Bank

Hang Seng Bank Limited

Mercantile Bank Limited

Wardley Limited

Antony Gibbs & Sons Limited

For more information contact us at any of our following offices.

London
99 Bishopsgate,
London EC2P 2LA
Tel: 01-638 2300

Edinburgh
76 Hanover Street,
Edinburgh EH2 1HQ
Tel: 031-223 9933

Manchester
4 Mincul Street,
Manchester M60 2AP
Tel: 061-233 0178

Birmingham
31-32 Waterloo Street,
Birmingham B2 5TP
Tel: 021-233 1717

The Hongkong Bank

International banking since 1865

Accordingly, on February 15, 1982 the Sinking Fund Notes so designated for redemption will become and be due and payable on or after February 16, 1982 subject to the deposit of funds with the Paying Agent, at one-hundred percent (100%) of the principal amount thereof in United States dollars, at the option of the holder, either (a) at the corporate trust office of Bankers Trust Company, One Bankers Trust Plaza, New York, New York 10006 or (b) subject to any applicable laws or regulations in the country where each of the following offices is located, at the main offices of Bankers Trust Company in London and Paris, or at the main offices of Banque Internationale a Luxembourg S.A., in Luxembourg-Ville. Certain Temporary Notes which were called for redemption on February 15, 1977 have not been presented for payment. Temporary Note numbers TM 1661 and TM 1692 were called in whole. In accordance with Section 3(B) of the Fiscal Agency Agreement, payment of interest due on the above Temporary Notes which were selected for redemption, on February 15, 1977, will not be made unless the ownership declaration as set forth on such Note has been executed.

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, Fiscal Agent

Dated: January 15, 1982

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Thorn EMI rides the video boom

More than most major companies, Thorn EMI has cause to bless last July's Royal Wedding. The nuptials led to an upsurge in demand for television sets and video recorders, which continued throughout the rest of the year.

With both manufacturing and rental outlets working at full capacity and the Ferguson TX range gaining ground, the group managed to beat stock market expectations for the six months to September 30, producing pretax profits up from £38.6m to £45.5m. But apart from television and video rental, the figures reflect better results from overseas and the absence of rationalisation costs, particularly in the record division.

Record demand continued its slow improvement from the horrors of 1979 when sales plummeted by more than 50 per cent. But though the recession is still hitting demand, Thorn EMI is benefiting from closures in Europe and the emergence of new singing stars.

That is the good news. EMI films are still losing money, albeit not on a titanic scale. And the high front-end cost of depreciating video equipment appears to have wiped out cash flow on the software side. Profits from domestic appliances made a reasonable contribution against nothing in the comparable period last year. But engineering and lighting remain problem areas.

The board indeed, refer to possible disposals for businesses which do not fit into the corporate plan. And there is speculation that the lighting division, the very base of Thorn, will be hived off, maybe to GEC.

Thorn EMI is weathering the recession due to rationalization measures, the improved television and video rental markets, and relatively strong performances overseas. So in the year to March, profits could touch £110m pretax against £94m previously. Beyond that much depends upon the partnership with JVC, AEG-Telefunken and Thomson-Brandt for the manufacture of video disc players in the EEC, further disposals and an upturn in general demand. The shares at 442p reflect hopes that the large investment in video will bear fruit in the middle of the decade.

Money markets

Difficult days for the Bank

Yesterday's full money supply figures for the short December banking month showed nothing seriously untoward — unless, of course one holds to the view that the money supply should be contracting as the effects of the civil servants' dispute are unwound.

As it is, the figures once again confirm that sterling M3 is not the best indicator to be watching for the moment. Against sterling M3 growth at an annualized growth rate of 15% per cent since last February, PSLI, the broad measure of private liquidity has seen its annualized growth rate drop back to 12 per cent, while that for M1, the narrow version of banking money, stands at just 8½ per cent.

Of more immediate concern is the present and prospective liquidity shortage in the banking sector. In banking December the issue Department took aboard a further £550m of commercial bills. That total will have grown since mid-December, and next week the discount houses expect the total liquidity shortage to run anywhere between £1,500m and £2,000m.

Interestingly the banks were buying on bills from outside the banking system during December to give themselves a greater cushion of primary liquidity. But it has been clear this week that, even though the banks may be running down their liquidity ratios (in line with the Bank of England's policy of flexible liquidity norms), liquidity flowing from the authorities through the discount houses has not always been working through to the banks themselves all that fast.

A serious complication now could be any weakness in sterling. The authorities may believe that they should try

to prevent any rise in domestic interest rates, but their scope to use intervention as a support for sterling would only serve to aggravate still further liquidity shortage in the banking system.

United Newspapers Trusting to expansion

While Fleet Street throbs with fresh speculation on the future structure of the national newspapers — and Associated's disappointing results yesterday did nothing to diminish rumours that it may well feature in any restructuring — United Newspapers quietly gave notice that it is proposing to move up a step in the publishing league.

Not that United is likely to have any aspirations about gaining a toehold in Fleet Street particularly after the death of former chairman Lord Barnettson. But by effectively sewing up the purchase of Colonial Securities Trust with an underwritten share offer, United will get its hands on a portfolio that should realise about £10m. — or considerably more than it would have been able to raise by a conventional rights issue on the equivalent one-for-two basis.

Given that United is already totally ungered, albeit that last year's net cash position of almost £6m has been partly run down, there is going to be considerable scope for fresh investment and expansion. Over and above further investment in existing operations, United is looking actively for fresh opportunities in publishing, printing and information/communication systems, both here and in the United States.

Pretax profits for 1981 are forecast at £4m against £4.5m the previous year and more than £8m in 1978. That will leave a maintained dividend (offering a yield of over 10% per cent) barely covered. But the expectation must be for a good profit recovery in 1982 as advertising recovers and the new cash earns a return.

Burnham/Croda

Setting out the strategy

Burnham has put a reasonably strong strategic case to its shareholders for the proposed £79m takeover of specialist chemicals group Croda. Essentially it is that the group does not have the trading base from which to grow as an integrated oil company — even if that were possible in a world where there is only limited control over crude oil supplies — and that to avoid becoming an ill-defined conglomerate it has decided to concentrate on a few core businesses.

The one area it has identified as ripe for growth over the next 20 years is specialty chemicals, although there are contrary views within the chemical industry about its potential. In sight of Croda, which lost its direction in the early 1970s, Burnham is claiming that its prospects are much rosier than if it were to struggle along alone given Burnham's marketing strengths through the Castrol organization.

To show it means business about its positive strategy, Burnham is putting the automotive components division Quinton Hexall up for sale.

Inevitably there will be a lot of hot air over the next few weeks, but at the end of the day price will determine the outcome. The 70p a share Burnham is offering is below asset value and looks cheap if Croda makes £15m or so in

But assets are only worth what they can earn, and Croda — through a mixture of bad luck and weak management — has not been making them that in recent years. Shareholders will have to decide whether Croda will respond to treatment rather quicker in the Burnham half. If the past is any guide, it probably will, given Burnham's commitment to make this area of its business buzz. But it should be possible for the Croda board to squeeze a little more out of Burnham, even though it is conscious of over-paying for past acquisitions.

Business Diary: Parcel boast ● A bridge too far

What should have been a package of pure delight for rail users from Len Dumeelow has arrived not only late but somewhat sorry looking.

Dumeelow, the secretary of the Central Transport Consultative Committee, a British Rail user, watchdog, has pulled off something of a coup. But not only is the announcement of the CTCC's victory that of persuading British Rail to drop owners' risk conditions for the Rail Express Parcels service from January 1 — two weeks late in coming but of course yesterday there were no trains to carry parcels at BR's — or anybody else's — risk.

Now, to cap it all, neither Dumeelow nor fellow colleagues of the committee's secretariat were able to reach

their London office because of the strike.

Dumeelow was somewhere between Birmingham and his home in Rugby yesterday, but Business Artsy Brown, his assistant secretary, at home in Brighton.

Brown was able to explain why the announcement was delayed from January 1 and say the changes had taken about two to three years to ring about after complaints from package senders throughout the country.

Brown estimates that about 62 million are parcels carried by this ER service — much the same as five years ago.

BR puller out last year from collection service. Parcels are now only taken from station to station, so Brown thinks this might reduce the number this year even had there been no strike.

Mrs Sheward went on: "I once got an American executive who said to me 'Please, we'd like to know if everybody else in this street will be earning £100,000 a year.'

"While you might be able to make such assumptions in nice, suburban areas in

Transportation

The singer and writer George Melly popularized the adjective "transpontine" to describe scruff like me who live in London but on the wrong, i.e. south, side of the Thames.

Judith Sheward (right) who lives in north pukka north London, discusses this particular north-south controversy in the current edition of her London Newsletter for foreign executives looking for homes in or near the capital.

Of Camberwell, Clapham, Wandsworth and Greenwich, she says: "There are many beautifully modernised houses which just don't seem to find expatriate renters, despite the fact that many of their neighbours would be of the same age and background, many of them younger professionals."

Mrs Sheward is a director of International Relocation, which helps to house and settle expatriate families, many of them Americans.

She tells me that recession or not, Americans will still not tackle inner south London, but will settle for smaller space somewhere smarter. It seems that once they leave the Melting Pot, Americans want houses either in a nice, white suburb just like the one they left back home, (£1,500 a month up) or else in Hollywood London, those nice squares in Chelsea and Knightsbridge (£2,500 up).

"British has had very bad publicity, so many tend to equate anything from Wimbledon Common to Croydon as 'bad news,' she tells me. Even Putney can draw the response: 'It's too far and we've seen some black faces.'

Mrs Sheward went on: "I once got an American executive who said to me 'Please, we'd like to know if everybody else in this street will be earning £100,000 a year.'

"While you might be able to make such assumptions in nice, suburban areas in

Paul Maidment and John McIlwraith

Gentleman of quality who got the measure of Lord Grade

Mr Robert Holmes a'Court's Bell Group finally bid last night for Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation. Uncertainty and last minute hold ups had led to confusion during the day.

This is the kind of drama which has punctuated the long career of the ACC chief. Mr Holmes a'Court's style is very different.

While Lord Grade fits everyone's idea of the show business mogul — from the poor immigrant Jewish background to the ever-present cigar — Mr Robert Holmes a'Court is anything but the popular image of an Australian tycoon.

Quiet-spoken, tall and elegant, the South African born but now Perth-based Mr Holmes a'Court carries himself as a gentleman of quality, as perhaps befits a scion of the Barons Heytesbury. Even his curious (and disliked) sobriquet, "The Profitable Loser," acquired from his knack of selling off strategic stakes in takeover battles he started, has about it the ring of patrician understatement.

His presence is assured and authoritative, both in private and in profit, a skill augmented from his days as a member of the University of Western Australia's law school debating team, he law aged 24 after studying agriculture in New Zealand.

On the surface then Lord Grade and Mr Holmes a'Court seem very different animals. But, in fact, they have many similarities. Mr Holmes a'Court, now in his mid-forties and reputedly one of the richest men in Australia, has all the toughness, entrepreneurial flair and workaholic tendencies of Grade, if not the penchant for showmanship — he smokes the slimmer Havana cigars. Many say he has the shrewd business brain of the two. Lord Grade has come to trust him, and he has described him as "the lightening".

Like Lord Grade's, Mr Holmes a'Court's business empire, the Bell Group, is very much his own creation. He pays painstaking attention to detail and until recently checked every item of expenditure personally, including his fellow directors'. The origins of the Bell Group date back a decade.

By 1976, the textile group held 34.9% of Bell Brothers Holdings and Mr Holmes a'Court commanded the whole lot of the Bell Group. He is chairman of the group, of which, with his family company Heytesbury Securities, he controls more than half.

Three years later, the group started buying a number of strategic stakes in companies it did not end up taking over, but from which it derived useful profits. The first of these was the Australian

diversification programme into mineral resources and property to boost its asset base. In 1978, it bought Bell

Brothers Holdings, a construction and transport company which had run into trouble following the collapse of the Western Australian property boom that had come on the back of a minerals resources boom.

By 1978, the textile group had 34.9% of Bell Brothers Holdings and Mr Holmes a'Court commanded the whole lot of the Bell Group.

He is chairman of the group, of which, with his family company Heytesbury Securities, he controls more than half.

They also say he likes the power which media groups offer and the kudos of owning big-name ones, as his concurrent bid for the Herald and Weekly Times group, Australia's largest media conglomerate, shows.

The media is one of three

areas which Mr Holmes a'Court underlined for the Bell Group's growth in his chairman's review with the last annual report. The others were transport and mining.

He also believes in integrating print and electronic media within a single group under one top management and with specialist journalists dividing their time between

newspaper, radio and television. This may give some edge to his future intentions in this field in Britain, given his reported interest in the Express group of newspapers and known past interest in The Times group, although

he recognises the difficulties caused by British legislation restricting foreigners from controlling broadcasting stations.

It is a criticism of Mr Holmes a'Court that he does



Robert Holmes a'Court — shrewder than his adversary

such as the Bell Group's cash reserves have been available to spend on investments because its transport subsidiaries plant purchases have been matched by depreciation through leasing of equipment. In 1981, a \$14.6m was transferred to reserves, the year before \$5.6m.

Borrowings have been raised from \$13.1m to \$26m and the offer document for Herald and Weekly Times said current sources of credit could yield \$48.4m from more than a dozen banks.

However, the extraordinary profits he has made from buying and selling strategic share stakes have made subsequent acquisitions easier and brokers say he will need to generate more such profits to sustain the group's growth of the past couple of years. Most Australian brokers expect that to happen.

Mr Holmes a'Court was recently quoted in the Australian magazine, *The Bulletin*, as saying: "I have no commercial interests other than my shareholding in the Bell Group. The only assets I have outside that are my aberrations like my horses and my paintings and my vintage cars."

Like many self-made business tycoons, he has a passion for horse racing. He owns a 300 hectare stud named after his Heytesbury forebear. He recently paid a record price for a yearling in Sydney, and he owns polo ponies.

Despite his wealth and his rich man's hobbies, Mr Holmes a'Court tends to eschew the trappings of the good life. He leads a relatively private life devoted to work during the week and to his family at weekends. He has four children.

A virtual non-drinker who drives his staff as hard as he drives himself, his idea of a business lunch is orange juice and a tomato sandwich. He expects that to be the idea of those he is lunching as well.

He tells with relish of a visit to a merchant bank in the City, a place of which on the whole he is scornful for its long lunches and, to his mind, slack hours.

The meeting was scheduled for late in the morning and soon his hosts were proposing lunch. They were shocked when he insisted that a secretary was sent out to buy sandwiches, telling them he was not paying them by the hour and he was not paying them to have lunch.

In addition to the \$5.6m of

shareholders' funds, his

wholly-owned

subsidiaries are the textile

interests, now called Albany Wollen Mills, and a metal pipe manufacturer.

The group also owns 79.4%

of an electric motor and pump manufacturer, Westgate Industries, and 45.5%

of a marine equipment and hotels group, J. N. Taylor Holdings. In addition, the group has a 60.7% stake in a cement plant in Western Australia's Outback.

As well as its interests in ACC, the Bell Group has a 26.3% per cent holding in the Perth TV Enterprises, which has 30% per cent of Western newspapers. The Bell Group has a direct 32.2% per cent stake in Western Mail.

Mr Holmes a'Court tends to eschew the trappings of the good life. He leads a relatively private life devoted to work during the week and to his family at weekends. He has four children.

A virtual non-drinker who drives his staff as hard as he drives himself, his idea of a business lunch is orange juice and a tomato sandwich. He expects that to be the idea of those he is lunching as well.

He tells with relish of a visit to a merchant bank in the City, a place of which on the whole he is scornful for its long lunches and, to his mind, slack hours.

The meeting was scheduled for late in the morning and soon his hosts were proposing lunch. They were shocked when he insisted that a secretary was sent out to buy sandwiches, telling them he was not paying them by the hour and he was not paying them to have lunch.

In the UK, the recession has resulted in a substantial drop in profitability, all the main UK groups being affected.

Overseas, our operations, particularly in Africa and the Middle East, Australia and direct exports, showed much improved results.

Total group borrowings have been reduced by some £2 million during the year.

Dividend. At the annual general meeting to be held on 5th March, 1982, a final dividend of 3.3p per share will be recommended, resulting in a total dividend of 5.6p for the year.

The full Report and Accounts will be posted to shareholders on Monday, 6th February, 1982.

SGB Group Limited, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 4TO

Ralph Quaranto, chief executive of the Post Office pension fund, is presently taking legal action to stop a £750,000 gold handshake package to Jack Gill, released this week with a night out at Greenwich Theatre — watching Sheridan's *The School for Scandal*.

Ross Davies



"Slip on the ice or golden handshake?"

Home and why: executive rehousing Judith Sheward at her own front door in London

America, it's extremely difficult in London to walk

Stock Exchange Prices Equities steady

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Jan 11. Dealings End Jan 22. § Contango Day, Jan 25. Settlement Day, Feb 1
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Attention focused on electrics

Electricals dominated an otherwise subdued market yesterday, with dealers still heavily involved in overcoming the problems posed by the train drivers' strike.

Half-year figures from Thorn EMI proved to be slightly disappointing, with analysts proved right in their decision to downgrade earlier estimates of £50m, compared with the final figures of £45m. Jobbers immediately responded by marking the shares lower and were admiringly surprised to encounter an influx of cheap buyers which pushed the shares 10p higher to 443p in the absence of the feared £50m rights issue.

The story was less bright for Racal, which unveiled half-year figures earlier this week.

The shares tumbled 33p to 390p after the group's seminar with the City to discuss the figures. But many brokers left the meeting despondent in the belief that the group might have to work that much harder for future profits. Analysts had earlier predicted that profits for the full year would soar through the £100m barrier, compared with £73.2m last time.

The rest of the electrical sector was clearly affected by the news, with losses in other big names, GEC lost 6p to 801p, Plessey 11p to 345p and BECC up to 270p.

Among the second-liners, Muirhead, in which Tyco Laboratories holds 24 per cent of the equity, rose 7p to 119p after a return to profits and the dividend list and AGB Research was also wanted after details of its Italian television contract rising 14p to 271p.

Elsewhere, the rest of the equity market relied mainly on bid situations to keep interest alive, and, in spite of the looming threat of a miners' strike, the FT Index closed 0.1 down at 527.2.

Gilts recovered early weakness, caused by concern over sterling and the miners' ballot, to close unchanged on the day.

Yesterday was the last day for dealings in shares of Mothercare and Habitat after shareholders of both companies voted to accept the proposals for a reverse takeover. Dealings start later today in the new format of Habitat, Mothercare.

Shares of the Royal Bank of Scotland eased 3p to 141p ahead of today's official report from the Monopolies Commission which expected to come out against bids of both Standard Chartered Bank and Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. There were also unconfirmed reports that the jobbers had requested the shares to be suspended until the full contents of the report had been digested.

There were more dawn rain rumours, including old favourites like Rail Enviro McDougall, up 1p to 655p; Turner & Newall up 2p to 93p; and Toxco, Kemsley, unchanged at 65p.

Better than expected trading news added 2p to Dixons Photographic at 160p; 2p to S & W Berisford at 125p; and 10p Thomas French at 110p. But lower profits at Associated Newspapers, including a £3.4m loss at the *Daily Mail*, wiped 2p from the price at 173p.

Equity turnover on January 13 was £85.967m (£10.835).

Latest results

Company Int'l or Fin.	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Aldrey Ltd (I)	30.08/28.92	1.62/1.45	—	14/-/1.4	25	(3.94)
Asset News (P)	22.9/24.26/26.6	16.22/22.51	2.55/36.7	5.95/5.3	26/2	10/4/10/4
Cantors (I)	10.08/7.75	0.149/(0.82)	—	—	—	(0.01)
Centrofinancier (I)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dunne Foy (I)	—	—	—	20.13/3	154	(2.66)
Edwards Group (I)	15.2/15.15/2	0.33/(0.31)a	1.51/1.84	1.51/1.5	25/2	(4.0)
Thomas French (P)	13.2/16.56	6.05/6.01	2.07/2.22	1.31/1.3	18	(3.48)
Greens King (I)	30.72/27.02	2.31/2.57	8.37/3.3	3.2/3.2	132	(6.3)
Jones, Stroud (I)	14.06/14.19	1.20/1.68	7.3/3.25	2/2	8/4	(5.2)
Muirhead (I)	28.55/25.15	0.88/2.27b	7.3/3.25	2/2	125	(3.4)
Symonds Eng (I)	4.41/4.15	0.10/0.05	0.52/0.52	0.20/0.2	25/2	(0.3)
Woolfson Eng (I)	1.12/1.21	0.45/0.58	1.41/1.42	0.45/0.45	14/14	(4.45)
Dividends in this table are the net of tax. Dividends in parentheses are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown						

pretax and earnings are net. a=Gross revenue. b=Loss.

Dixons jumps to £6m midway

By Margaret Page

Dixons Photographic, one of Britain's largest retailers of electronic equipment, plans further expansion after pulling through the recession with a 20 per cent rise in pre-tax profits in the first half.

Pretax profits rose to £6m in the six months to November against £5m last time on sales £22m higher at £135m. The group is lifting the half-time gross dividend to 1.95p against 1.8p and the shares gained 2p to 160p.

The retailing manufacturing and overseas divisions all improved trading profits during the period because of greater demand but Dixons' processing interests suffered from intense competition. Profits here fell by £300,000

legally to sell now although

customers may not use them until they are approved by the British Telecom network.

Dixons is now selling computerized memory telephones manufactured in Hong Kong for sale through its outlets including, Greene and Rubblewicks, via its subsidiary, Advanced Consumer Electronics.

Overseas profits rose significantly through the group's 250 shops pushed profits there up to £2m from £1.5m. In the last full year the division made £4.7m.

Mr Stanley Kalms, chairman, says the retail division plans to continue investment growth and next year and 25 stores are being planned.

Part of Dixons' expansion plan lies in selling telephone equipment for private consumers now that British Telecom has ended its monopoly over telephones. Dixons can legally to sell now although

customers may not use them until they are approved by the British Telecom network.

Dixons is now selling computerized memory telephones manufactured in Hong Kong for sale through its outlets including, Greene and Rubblewicks, via its subsidiary, Advanced Consumer Electronics.

Overseas profits rose significantly through the group's 250 shops pushed profits there up to £2m from £1.5m. In the last full year the division made £4.7m.

Mr Stanley Kalms, chairman, says the retail division plans to continue investment growth and next year and 25 stores are being planned.

Part of Dixons' expansion plan lies in selling telephone equipment for private consumers now that British Telecom has ended its monopoly over telephones. Dixons can legally to sell now although

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14.1%
Barclays	14.1%
BCCI	14.1%
Consolidated Crds.	14.1%
C. Heare & Co.	*14.1%
Lloyds Bank	14.1%
Midland Bank	14.1%
Nat Westminster	14.1%
TSB	14.1%
Williams & Glyn's	14.1%

* 10 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 14.1% over £10,000 14.1%.

LEAD was irregular — Afternoon, 27/28; Evening, 29/30; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 28/29; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 29/30; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 30/31; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 31/32; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 32/33; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 33/34; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 34/35; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 35/36; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 36/37; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 37/38; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 38/39; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 39/40; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 40/41; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 41/42; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 42/43; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 43/44; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 44/45; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 45/46; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 46/47; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 47/48; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 48/49; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 49/50; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 50/51; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 51/52; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 52/53; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 53/54; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 54/55; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 55/56; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 56/57; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 57/58; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 58/59; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 59/60; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 60/61; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 61/62; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 62/63; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 63/64; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 64/65; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 65/66; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 66/67; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 67/68; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 68/69; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 69/70; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 70/71; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 71/72; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 72/73; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 73/74; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 74/75; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 75/76; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 76/77; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 77/78; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 78/79; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 79/80; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 80/81; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 81/82; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 82/83; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 83/84; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 84/85; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 85/86; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 86/87; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 87/88; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 88/89; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 89/90; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 90/91; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 91/92; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 92/93; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 93/94; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 94/95; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 95/96; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 96/97; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 97/98; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 98/99; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 99/00; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 00/01; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 01/02; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 02/03; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 03/04; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 04/05; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 05/06; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 06/07; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 07/08; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 08/09; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 09/10; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 10/11; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 11/12; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 12/13; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 13/14; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 14/15; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 15/16; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 16/17; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 17/18; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 18/19; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 19/20; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 20/21; Sales, £537.50-32.00; Sales, 4,875 tonnes; Morning, 21/22; Sales, £537.50-32.00;

Football

Champions paired with FA Cup holders

The League champions, Aston Villa, could face the FA Cup winners Tottenham Hotspur in the two-legged League Cup semi-final. But the most important semi-final matches yet decided yesterday's draw means little at the moment, and threatens fresh fixture problems.

Villa will meet Spurs if the clubs win their respective home quarter-finals against West Bromwich Albion and Nottingham Forest. The other semi-final could throw together the two other English teams who won honours last season.

The European champions and League Cup holders Liverpool will clash with the Uefa Cup winners Ipswich Town. If both beat their respective opposition, Liverpool must first overcome a replay at Barnsley and Ipswich must overcome those famed cup fighters Watford.

Six of the eight teams involved in yesterday's draw are also in the FA Cup, and if the weather does not relent—or if many cup games are drawn—there could be problems. Next week the clubs will try to settle the League Cup quarter-finalists and then play the FA Cup fourth-round games on Saturday January 23. There could be rearranged games or replays in both competitions the following week, before it is known, the League Cup semi-finalists, who are staged is the week after that.

DRAW: Aston Villa v West Bromwich; Liverpool v Watford; Ipswich v Barnsley; the first leg schedules for the two-legged semi-final for the week beginning February 1.

The League Cup quarter-final between Villa and West Bromwich, rearranged for Monday, may have been postponed again on police advice. With Bobby Stevie Stride, who arranged a meeting with senior police officers yesterday, said afterwards: "They agree with me that it would be a public safety hazard to stage a match at Villa Park with the surrounding stress and pavements as they are."

He added that a drastic thaw is the only hope of the match going ahead.

No action likely over complaints about England seeding

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

six sides (Spain, Argentina, West Germany, Brazil, Italy and England) were being given preferential treatment. Yet Jose Havelange, the president of Fifa, relaxed a rule forbidding groups of six countries during the draw for the European championships in Paris last Friday.

Such information, Belgium and France would not have been able to lodge an objection to England's high ranking. The case is to be heard later tonight by the football committee, which will then decide whether the committee will do no more than formally accept the complaint and that no action will be taken.

If Mr Havelange's list of seeded nations is confirmed tomorrow, it is to be believed, then form no longer carries much, if any, weight than the interests of politics and commerce. But as Porta, the hockeymaster, put it: "The Spanish Olympic committee has remained itself."

Porta originally offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Porta, offered to

Mr Havelange's list of seed-

ed nations to him yesterday.

Porta, the hockeymaster, had

their sursums may be similar

but their personalities and

philosophies are different. Their current disagreement centres around the draw that is to take place here on Sunday evening.

Briefly, the hockeymaster, Mr

Extrovert England and Watford doctor has one ambition left to achieve

Vital part of an important family

Any week now Dr Vernon Edwards will catch a plane to Spain where the water flows mainly in the pipes and bring back a sample. Apart from the tap water, he'll also bring back some of the bottled variety. He'll get it tested by his local hospital laboratory in sunny Watford, and with a bit of luck pronounce it perfectly all right. You have to be very careful, when you're looking after

another's birdie.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

He's got another shot,

and so on, and so on.

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Daville

BBC 1

9.00 For Schools, Colleges: The subjects for today are Biology, Better Badminton (part one), Look and Read (Boy from Space), Religious and Moral Education, Exploring Science (air), Hymn o' Fyf (for Welsh viewers), Talkabout and Going to Work; 12.00 Closedown; 12.30 News After Noon; 12.57 Financial report and news headlines; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Includes an item on pastimes and sport, and Peter Seabrook's visit to an unusual Leeds garden; 1.45 Bagman; 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: The Kids are O.K. (1) and A Good Job with Prospects; 3.00 Dechrau Cwm, Dechrau Cammol (Welsh hymn singing) for Welsh viewers; 3.55 Play School: For details, see BBC 2 at 11.00 am.

BBC 2

11.00 Play School: Max Velhuizen's story The Little Boy and the Big Fish; 11.25 Closedown; 3.55 Around with Alix: Peter Alix plays golf (and chats with her) with Terry Wogan; From Ashridge Golf Club, Herts (r).

11.30 Janet Street-Porter: LWT, 6.00 pm

Janet Street-Porter: LWT, 6.00 pm

4.20 Captain Caveman: cartoon series; 4.30 Think Again: John Ball's subject today is energy — where it comes from, where it goes to.

4.55 Grange Hill: comprehensive school serial. Pogo and Gripper see a way of making some cash at a time of economic stringency.

5.20 The Amazing Adventures of Morph: 5.25 Welcome to Wodehouse: Paul Eddington tells the famous story of Pig-Hoo-eey-eey!

5.40 News: with Richard Baker; 6.00 Regional news magazines. And at 6.22 Nationwide; 6.45 Sportswise.

7.00 The Superteams: Final of the Ferguson Championship, From Bath. The Watersports team fight it out with the Athletics team. Commentators: David Vine, Ron Pickering, Brian Budd.

8.00 Famine is the Spur: Episode 2 of the Howard Spring novel about three Manchester chums. Ann Armstrong's father was furious last week to find her alone with Arnold. With Joanna David, David Hayman, Tim Pigott-Smith.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took on viewers' letters.

9.00 News: with John Simpson.

9.25 Miss Great Britain 1982: There are 21 hopefuls.

10.15 West Country Tales: Anita Harris in The Breakdown, a comic tale of a motorist's predicament.

10.45 Newsheads: And weather forecast.

10.50 Film: A New Leaf (1970): Elaine May stars in, writes and directs this off-beat comedy about a middle-aged playboy (Walter Matthau) who, in desperation, marries an awkward botanist (Mia Farrow). The alternative was suicide. Ends at 12.35.

11.00 International Dart: The semi-finals of the Embassy World Professional Championship. From Jolles Club, Stoke-on-Trent. We shall know at the end of tonight's play who tomorrow's finalists will be... Further five coverage at 11.30.

9.25 Playhouse: A Silly Little Habit. Carol Burnett's play stars Margaret Tyzack as a comfortably-off wife, with successful husband and growing-up children. And yet, she has this habit...

10.15 The Teesside Mercury: A week in the life of newspaper editor James McCaggart.

10.45 Newsnight:

11.30 International Darts: see 8.00 entry.

11.55 Friday Night ... Saturday Morning: Music and chat, with Jane Walmsley as MC. Ends at 12.50 am.

Paris by Night: A tour of the La Republique-La Bastille quarters.

12.05 FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m, Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m, VHF 97.5MHz/240m, Radio 4 1250kHz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz/251m, Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.8MHz/240m.

11.55 Play School: Max Velhuizen's story The Little Boy and the Big Fish; 11.25 Closedown; 3.55 Around with Alix: Peter Alix plays golf (and chats with her) with Terry Wogan; From Ashridge Golf Club, Herts (r).

11.30 Janet Street-Porter: LWT, 6.00 pm

The hammer continues to knock chips off the false image some people still have of AFTER NOON PEEP (ITV 2, 2.00). If that is understandable, then it is understandable viewing for ladies of leisure before they wash up the knick-knacks. It is anything but. For example, today's edition — by no means an untypical one — comes from Northern Ireland. Half of it is a filmed report on Government-sponsored schemes for improving the job prospects of the province's many young jobless. Pin-pricks of light in a gloomy landscape. The second half has Adam Butler, Minister of State for Northern Ireland commenting on the experiment in economic and humanitarian therapy. Scarcely an item-only to half-watch after lunch, I'd have thought.

I wrote approvingly last Friday of

Central's funny-and-sad serial SHINE ON HARVEY MOON (TV, 5.30pm), but omitted to praise the ingrediant that, perhaps more than anything else, makes one feel confident that the serial will not fail seriously from grace. I refer to Elizabeth Spriggs, who plays Harvey's mother. If there is a more versatile actress on British television, I can't think who it can be. Women with class; belligerent women and cosy women; silly women and clever ones; women on the side of the angels and of the devil. Miss Spriggs can be all of them. Yet, fundamentally, it is her manner, in a word, the complete performer.

FAME IS THE SPUR begins to open our tonight (BBC 1, 8.00pm)

after last week's first episode in which the ambience of the Manchester house he and have-not's was most realistically established. Tonight we go on an excursion to Bradford, to Aunt Lizzie's smoky little flat.

STEAMING (ITV 2, 8.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

DAVE ALLEN (ITV 2, 9.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

GEORGINA HALE (ITV 2, 9.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

BOOKING THROUGH EAST! (ITV 2, 10.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

PHOENIX THEATRE (Channel 4, 10.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS (ITV 2, 11.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

HORNSON'S CHOICE (ITV 2, 11.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDUCATING RITA (ITV 2, 12.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO. (ITV 2, 12.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 1.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

STRAND (ITV 2, 1.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE (ITV 2, 2.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 2.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 3.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 3.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 4.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 4.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 5.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 5.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 6.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 6.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 7.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 7.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 8.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 8.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 9.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 9.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 10.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 10.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 11.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 11.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 12.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 12.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 1.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 1.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 1.45pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 2.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 2.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 3.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 3.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 4.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 4.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 5.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 5.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 6.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 6.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 7.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 7.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 8.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 8.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 9.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 9.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 10.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 10.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 11.00pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 11.30pm) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 12.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 12.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 1.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 1.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 2.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 2.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 3.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 3.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 4.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 4.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 5.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 5.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 6.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 6.30am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 7.00am) is a spin-off from the London-based series of the same name.

EDWARD, OR CONCERTO IN G (ITV 2, 7.3

Coal board and NUM expect a photo finish

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Both sides in the miners' pay dispute last week were privately predicting a close finish in the secret pithead ballot for strike action. Voting started yesterday but will not be completed until the middle of next week.

Straw polls in the Durham coalfield, which was the most accurate barometer in the last strike ballot in 1980, suggested that the men were evenly divided over their union leaders' request to give them authority to mount an all-out stoppage.

If those opposition samples at Horden and Westoe pits are reflected across the coalfield, it would represent a marked increase in the level of militancy from the 38 per cent for striking recorded just over a year ago. A swing across the country on that scale would yield a comfortable majority for a strike.

In Yorkshire, Mr Arthur Scargill, the area leader and national president-elect, said yesterday that feedback from the pits showed that the men were not heading for the appeal of Mr Joseph Gormley, the president, to accept the £102m package offer.

"I think it has backfired on him," he said. "I am more than optimistic that the result in Yorkshire will be extremely good. Better than it was 12 months ago."

In that ballot, the coalfield voted 65 per cent against the wage offer, which was being recommended by the executive.

Overall, the vote was 56 per cent to accept.

But this year's strike ballot will almost certainly be decided in the traditionally moderate areas of Durham and Nottinghamshire, which yielded 38 per cent and 22 per cent for the militant line last time.

Both areas have shown a swing to the left since then, more marked in Durham but elsewhere in Nottinghamshire were the men spurned Mr Raymond Chadbun, their area leader, in favour of Mr Scargill in the recent presidential election.

At the 500-man Ledston Luck colliery near Castleford, in the more moderate sector of the coalfield, Mr Alan Toes, branch secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, said: "We have had a great response so far, with an

overwhelming majority voting 'Yes.'

The men were ignoring facilities for marking their ballot in private, and openly marking their ballot paper in favour of rejection.

In Yorkshire, Mr Arthur Scargill, the area leader and national president-elect, said yesterday that feedback from the pits showed that the men were not heading for the appeal of Mr Joseph Gormley, the president, to accept the £102m package offer.

"I think it has backfired on him," he said. "I am more than optimistic that the result in Yorkshire will be extremely good. Better than it was 12 months ago."

In that ballot, the coalfield voted 65 per cent against the wage offer, which was being recommended by the executive.

Overall, the vote was 56 per cent to accept.

But this year's strike ballot will almost certainly be decided in the traditionally moderate areas of Durham and Nottinghamshire, which yielded 38 per cent and 22 per cent for the militant line last time.

Both areas have shown a swing to the left since then, more marked in Durham but elsewhere in Nottinghamshire were the men spurned Mr Raymond Chadbun, their area leader, in favour of Mr Scargill in the recent presidential election.

At the 500-man Ledston Luck colliery near Castleford, in the more moderate sector of the coalfield, Mr Alan Toes, branch secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, said: "We have had a great response so far, with an



Farewell to the corridor of power: Lord Grade taking a contemplative walk from his office at the London headquarters of ACC.

Southern England still paralysed by cold

Continued from page 1

In South Wales, Arctic conditions still meant dangerous roads and police appealed to private motorists to stay away from the centre of Cardiff to allow room for emergency vehicles.

Prince and Princess Michael of Kent managed to beat 8ft snowdrifts surrounding their home near Stroud, Gloucestershire, by flying by helicopter to London to attend a musical recital at St Paul's Cathedral to open Maritime England Year.

Two Welsh villages which had been cut off for seven days were relieved yesterday by snowploughs. Aberdaron, in the Llyn peninsula, and Wick, in Mid-Glamorgan, were lucky: bread, milk and meat was brought in by Land-Rovers. But other communities were still cut off and had to receive

essential supplies of food by helicopter.

National Association of Funeral Directors has asked bereaved people to accept cremations because low temperatures have made it impossible to dig graves.

Sir Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union, toured South Wales to see the full extent of the damage to farmers. A number of farmers have still not been able to make contact with their hill flocks.

Frozen pipes in many homes in Shropshire meant that hundreds of families had to queue in the street for water. The first of 200 sandpipers was brought into use yesterday.

On Wednesday night Oxfordshire was the coldest place in Europe, when RAF Brize Norton recorded a record low of -20.7C (-5.3F).

Why 'made by Lew' no longer makes the grade

By David Hewson and Philip Robinson

Lord Grade announced last night that he will resign as E203,000-a-year chairman and chief executive of Associated Communications Corporation in a takeover deal which will give control to Mr Robert Holmes a Court, the Australian financier.

Lord Grade's departure from the day-to-day running of a business he has built over 25 years comes just four months after the sudden departure of Mr Jack Gill, his right hand man, whose £750,000 golden handshake package is now the subject of legal action by 10 of the corporation's non-voting shareholders.

Lord Grade is expected to become ACC's president. Mr Holmes a Court will run the company and a new financial director is expected to arrive in six weeks.

The effective retirement of

Lord Grade will deprive the world of international business of one of its most flamboyant characters, a tough and determined operator who saw a lifetime of increasing success overtaken, in three years, by a vicious circle of creative and financial failure.

Lord Grade's analysis of his departure from the helm of the entertainment empire he built will lay the blame heavily at the door of the financial institutions, and not any dimming of his own instinct for finding the lucrative jugular through which flow the tastes of the masses.

It is an analysis few will share. Since embarking on its ill-fated attempt to become a new leading film studio, three years ago, ACC has consistently failed to find significant box office success. Its television company, ATV, which

gave birth to most of the Grade empire, has been partly stripped of its broadcasting shortcomings. Were it not for ACC's property holdings and its rights to such valuable music catalogues as a large number of Lennon and McCartney songs, the company's position could have been untenable.

It is factually unfair to lay the blame for all on the 75-year-old figure of the former Charleston dancer. But Lord Grade must take the blame for making his own personality inseparable from that of his company's product. That was a process he relished with such successes as *The Muppet* and television series like *The Saint*; *Beastie*, the *Clock* pulled in millions of viewers to ATV's Sunday Night at the London Palladium, and lightweight adventure series, such as *The Saint*, sold an image of swinging London to the United States. When his film flop, *Ride the Titanic*, automatically attracted the tag "made by Grade".

Lord Grade has assiduously cultivated his image with the journalists he thought most important, sending them champagne each Christmas, and occasionally inviting them, at short notice, to informal chats at his Mayfair offices. He likes to be known as Lew and always tries to come up with a quotable quote.

In retrospect, the peak of his career can be seen to be the heady days of British commercial television in the late 1950s and early 1960s, when

Beat the Clock pulled in millions of viewers to ATV's Sunday Night at the London Palladium, and lightweight

adventure series, such as *The Saint*, sold an image of swinging

London to the United States. When his film flop, *Ride the Titanic*, automatically attracted the tag "made by Grade".

He can comfort himself with the thought that the considerable fruits of his activities have assessed as a commendable achievement for someone born into poverty in the Ukraine on Christmas Day, 1906. But it is unlikely to prove of much consolation for someone the country's most notorious workaholic.

The Government—or at least the government representatives on the trip—seem to have been genuinely surprised by the strength of the workers' reaction and the sudden about-turn by Mr Rzowak. The old truisms about the dangers of believing one's own propaganda seem to apply.

In essence, Lord Grade is a showman who may have forgotten that ancient stage adage which says it is always best to leave the stage with the audience wanting more.

He can comfort himself with the thought that the considerable fruits of his activities have assessed as a commendable achievement for someone born into poverty in the Ukraine on Christmas Day, 1906. But it is unlikely to prove of much consolation for someone the country's most notorious workaholic.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Exhibitions
The royal wedding dress and presents. Cardiff Castle, 10 to 6.
One Man, One Rod, British Engineering, off Nevill Road, Hove, 10 to 5.
Beatrix Potter in Scotland, Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, 10 to 5.
Paintings by Jack Smith, Michael Johnson, Sue Smith and Helen Wilks, Bridge Street Gallery, 7a Bridge Street, Bath, 12.30 to 5.30.

Recent painting and drawings by Tim Gibb, Ashmead House, Oxford, 10 to 4.

The Great Roman Exhibition and paintings by Carel Weight, Royal Academy, 10 to 6.

Paintings and sculpture selected by Adrian Searle, Atlantic Gallery, E2 Warehouse, New Crane Wharf, Garner Street, E1, 10 to 5.

Painting by Brighton Moore

Tubb, Annex Gallery, 45 High Street, Wimbledon Common, 10 to 5.

Paintings by Craige Aitchison, Serpentines Gallery, 10 to 4.30.

Music

St. John's Christmas Oratorio, St. John's College Chapel, Cambridge, 8.30.

Recital by Peter Sheppard

(violin) and Betty McConnell (piano), St Sepulchre-without-Newgate, Holborn, 1.10.

Piano duet by Janet Walton and Lisa Challon, St Maria with Lodge, Ludgate Hill, 1.15.

Concert conducted by George Hurst, featuring Jim Li, 12-year-old Chinese violinist, Greenwich Royal Hall, Royal Hill, Greenwich SE10, 2.30.

Concert conducted by Moshe Azmon, Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Bedworth Civic Hall, Bedworth, near Coventry, 7.30.

Ancient Greek athletics, by Peter Varney, 11.30, and Japanese paintings of the Edo period: form and purpose, 1.15; both at British Museum.

Auctions today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: ceramics and works of art, 9 to 11. Christie's, South Kensington: prints and drawings, 10.30; dolls, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: furniture, 11.

Sotheby's, New Bond Street: ceramics and works of art, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: prints and drawings, 10.30; dolls, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: furniture, 11.

The papers

The Daily Mirror says "for

a newspaper to praise Princess Anne is as rare as a smile from a grumpy old man".

But there are reports that follow her example and check elderly neighbours are not suffering during the present cold spell.

Le Monde says France does not intend to let EC members

cut its budget by 10 per cent.

Le Monde also says France

is not optimistic about the

EU's chances of success.

Solution of Puzzle No 15,729

ACROSS

1 Front cover — Captain Corcoran's Charge (8)

5 Feed abhorrence of French international game (6)

8 Due to get a point back — due to him only (10)

9 Miss West is coming back about ten for a test (4)

10 Title awarded posthumously for a locomotive safety device (4,4)

11 Fair — frowned not on his humble birth" (Gray) (7)

13 More expensive ox — about a record (7)

15 Touchstone's reproof was (7)

18 Organize a right position for the singer's home (7)

21 Keep silent golden? Shone out amazingly (4,4)

22 Boy from the DNA unit (4)

23 Fred — with Ted, tree-chopping (10)

24 Without contents of deed he'd be a mere tenant (5)

25 Went back over part of the harness in Russian (5)

DOWN

1 Shows father dares to get involved (7)

2 Poor, thin and lean, a curate of Shakespeare's (5)

3 But he's not an arsonist (7)

4 Old Italian church vernacular type of language (7)

Solutions of Puzzles

No 15,729

No 15,730

No 15,731

No 15,732

No 15,733

No 15,734

No 15,735

No 15,736

No 15,737

No 15,738

No 15,739

No 15,740

No 15,741

No 15,742

No 15,743

No 15,744

No 15,745

No 15,746

No 15,747

No 15,748

No 15,749

No 15,750

No 15,751

No 15,752

No 15,753

No 15,754

No 15,7